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Rabin: No use probing war crimes

TEL AVIV (AP) - Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin rejected calls Sunday by cabinet ministers to investigate allegations of Israeli war crimes against Egyptian prisoners of war (PoWs), saying both sides were guilty of transgressions. "I am not saying there were no abertutions." Mr. Rabin was quoted by the Israeli news agency ltim as telling ministers. "There were aberrations on both sides. There is no purpose in raising events of the past, not on our side and not on theirs. I think that raising the issue embarrasses the Arab side as well." Reeling from two weeks of claims that laraeli soldiers killed prisoners and civilians in at least three Mideast wars (see page 2), ministers argued Sunday about how best to handle the situation. Communications Minister Shulamit Aloni called on Mr. Rabin to come clean on Israeli war comes. "We must deal with this," Mr. Alom said, speaking on Israel Radio "The government and then the education system.. must say their piece so it will not end up that on the outside we are moral, better than the non-Jews, but then we sweep things under the carpet."



An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordan Press Foundation جوردان تليمز يومية سِيلسَية تصدر عالانجليزية عن المؤسسة الصحفية الاردنية الراي.

'Saddam's half-brother still alive' BAGHDAD (AFP) -- Iraqi television broadcast a hospital

interview on Sunday with President Saddam Hussein's halfbrother, Watban Ibrahim, who had been reported killed in a family dispute by a Kurdish opposition group. Watban, who had an apparent bullet wound to his left leg, said he was in satisfactory condition and would leave the Ben Sina Hospital in a week. His son Ahmad, who was also reported dead by the Iraqi opposition. was sitting next to Watban during the television interview. President Saddam's half-brother said he was accidentally injured, along with two other people, when guns were fired to celebrate a marriage about two weeks earlier. Watban, who spoke without effort and was lying in hed with his leg suspended in plaster, said rumours that he had been killed in a family dispute were part of propaganda aimed at hurting Iraq." Asked about the defection to Jordan of Hussein Kamel Hassan, President Saddam's son-in-law. Watban said: "The family has gotten rid of him and has become more united" since his departure.

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Iraq planned to invade Kuwait, S.Arabia this month—defector

Jordan had no prior knowledge of defection, was surprised by it, Hussein Kamel affirms

By Jamal Halaby The Associated Press

AMMAN - A top-ranking Iraqi defector said Sunday his defection had foiled plans by Iraqi President Saddam Hussein to invade Kuwait and Saudi Arabia this month.

The latest movement of a large number of troops towords Basra was aimed at entering Kuwait. All army units were informed to enter Kuwait and the eastern parts of Saudi Arabia," said Lieutenant-General Hussein Kamel Al Majid, President Saddam's son-in-law.

'The move was reversed after... our departure," Gen. Hassan told the Associated Press in an interview, his first

Gruesome murder

SALT (J.T.) — The muti-

lated body of a 30-year-old

man identified as M.M.N.

was found on Sunday in the

Bagi'e area in the outskirts of

Salt Informed sources attri-

buted the crime to a dispute

over a taxi-cab licence plate

between the victim who

bought the plate and the sel-

ler. The licence plate is a

prerequisite for any taxi-cab

to operate in Jordan. Further

details were not immediately

Musa delays trip

CAIRO (R) - Egyptian

Foreign Minister Amr Musa

said on Sunday he was de-

laying a visit to Jordan be-

cause his Jordanian counter-

part was unwell. Mr. Musa

told journalists his trip, which

had been scheduled for Mon-

day, would go ahead a few days later than originally

planned once Foreign Minis-

ter Abdul Karim Al Kabariti

was fully recovered. He gave

no further details. An official

Jordanian source said on

Saturday Mr. Musa had been

expected to discuss the defec-

tion of senior Iraqi officials to

Amman as well as the Middle

Yemen postpones

ADEN (R) - Yemen on

Saturday said a meeting of

East peace process.

OIC meeting

available.

reported in Salt

public comment since a press conference in Amman on

Gen. Hassan said that before his defection, the Iraqi cabinet and the Revolutionary Command Council discussed the invasion plans in meetings that he attended.

"If the regime is honest, it should not lie about this," he said, "All (top) members of the Iraqi Baath Party were aware of the plans."

Gen. Hassan, Iraq's industry minister and head of the country's clandestine weapons programme, was granted asylum in Jordan after his Aug. 8 defection along with his brother Saddam Kamel, their wives, both daughters of President Sad-

dam Hussein, a cousin and about 15 soldiers.

His revelation appeared to confirm U.S. reports of "unusual" Iraqi troop move-The U.S. has reinforced its

military presence in the Gulf to thwart potential Iraqi threat to Kuwait and Jordan. Gen. Hassan, who is in his early 40s, said he defected because he "could not continue to tolerate the oppression of the fraqi people and

the savagery of the regime." He described Uday, President Saddam's eldest son, as "crazy and whimsical, trying to impose his authority and wickedness on society and government ministries.

The defector revealed that Ali Hassan Al Majid, his uncle and an adviser to President Saddam, had met him "last week" and "warned me

Uday and Ali Hassan rushed to Amman on Aug. 10 after Jordan announced it was granting asylum to the Iraqi delectors. King Hussein, who met with Uday and Ali Hassan, refused to hand

against speaking out against

and antagonising the reg-

over the defectors to Iraq. Gen. Hassan said the King had no prior knowledge of the defection. "It took them by surprise," he said of the Jordanians. "I was not in any contact with any side,

whether Arab, international, American or otherwise before I left Iraq."

"I entered Jordan with no prior notice," he said. "I met with His Majesty and rold him that I wanted to stay in lordan under his protection.

The former brains behind Iraq's secret weapons programme said he did not expect to have anything new to reveal about Iraq's clandestine arms if he meets with U.N. envoy Rolf Ekeus, who is widely expected to travel to Jordan.

Mr. Ekeus said in Baghdad on Sunday that Iraq had given him "important" information related to its biolo-

Iraq revealed 'important' arms data, Ekeus reports

BAGHDAD (Agencies) --- Iraq has handed over important data on its weapons programmes after what appears to be "a new turn" in relations with U.N. disarmament officials but more information is needed, a United Nations envoy said on

Sunday.

has given very important, significant new information with regard mostly to its biological weapons programmes and also some important information on its missile programme," Rolf Ekeus, head of the U.N. Special Commission in charge of disarming Iraq under the 1991 Gulf war ceasefire, said before leaving for Bahrain.

Mr. Ekeus came to Baghdad on Thursday to collect arms data that Iraq had accused a high-level defector, a son-in-law of President Saddam Hussein, of concealing from U.N. inspectors.

He said it seemed the Iraqi government had now taken a new turn, appeared toopen up, given new disclosures... at last we have come to a tarily and actively provides the commission with informa-

Mr. Ekeus said Iraq had addressed most of the outstanding issues in the biological sphere but stressed more information was required as he still did not regard the programme as closed.

"Indeed, while we are now talking our specialists are still receiving information. This takes a long time because it is such a large amount of data," he said.

He said Iraq also gave "im-portant clarifying information" on its nuclear programme. Experts from the international Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) would take it back to Vienna for analysis. London's Observer news-

paper reported Sunday Iraq was within three months of testing an atomic bomb when U.S.-led coalition forces launched the Gulf war to liberate Kuwait.

It quoted sources close to an American team responsible for debriefing President Saddam's son-in-law, Hussein Kamel Hassan Al Majid, who headed lraq's weapons programme. He defected to Jordan Aug. 8 with his brother and their wives both President Saddam's daughters.

'His sensational revelation that Irao was within an ace of testing an atomic bomb only postponed because of inė Gult war --- is just one oi the gifts he has presented the West," the Observer said in a

Gen. Hassan also told the Americans that last October's Iraqi troop maneouvres near the Kuwaiti border masked an Iraqi plot to invade Kuwait again, the paper quoted the sources as saying.

"It was the real thing, it was not a feint, we were not just conducting manocuvres," the paper quoted Gen. Hassan as telling American officials. "Saddam changed his mind only because you responded so quickly.

Mr. Ekeus said in Baghdad he discussed with Iraq's Deputy Prime Minister Tareq Aziz and Lieutenant-General Amir Mohammad Rasheed. head of the Military Industrialisation Organisation and oil minister, "the new situation after Hussein Kamel left the country.'

Mr. Ekeus is expected to meet Gen. Hassan in Jordan on Monday.

He said his commission was satisfied it had accounted (for Iraq's prohibited missiles ith a range beyond 150 kilometres but still had some questions about production

Mr. Ekeus said the latest information was related to missile production but his experts had had no time to analyse it.

He said teams of "very senior experts" would go to Baghdad soon to discuss aspects of the latest data. He expected more information from Iraq on its chemical arms which he did not get during his trip due to time constraints.

"All these things demand very, very careful analytical work by our specialists. It demands very solid verifica-tion, full understanding," Mr. Ekeus said.

(Continued on page 7)

be held here in October. During a meeting held at his office in Parliament, Sharif Zeid discussed with Mr. Hogen economic relations and the possibility for Japan to support Jordan's foreign currency reserves, and finance development projects in the Kingdom. Sharif Zeid

The Japanese official errived here Friday on a four-day visit to Jordan as part of a tour in the re-

The Japanese official leaves today (Monday) for Syria, the next leg of his tour in the region. Japanese officials say

sence at the MENA sum-

Murayama to visit



His Majesty King Hussein on Sunday receives Lebanese Agricultural Minister Shawqi Fakhouri (Petra photo)

King meets Lebanese envoy, Sabbah and U.S. admiral

AMMAN (Petra) - His Majesty King Hussein on Sunday received a message from Lebanese President Elias Hrawi dealing with bilateral relations, and means of further enhancing them.

The message was delivered to King Hussein by Lebanese Agriculture Minister Shawqi Fakhouri during an audience at the Royal Court. King Hussein voiced Jordan's support for Lebanon and its keen interest in enhancing bilateral relations in all fields.

The audience was attended by Royal Court Chief Marwan Al Qasem, Agriculture Minister Mansour Ben Tarif and the Lebanese ambassador to Jordan William Habib (see related story on page 3). Also on Sunday King Hussein received in a separate

audience Catholic Patriarch of Jerusalem Michael Sabbah, who expressed his appreciation to King Hussein for his role in supporting the Palestinian people in their efforts to establish peace with Israel and to remove all obstacles facing the Palestinian-Israeli peace

Patriarch Sabbah said King Hussein's positions on Jeru-salem had always received the admiration and appreciation of all Arabs. Palestinians and all peace-loving nations.

'We support His Majesty's steps to achieve a just, comprehensive and lasting peace in the region and to ensure regional security and stability," Patriarch Sabbah said. The audience was attrended by Mr. Qasem, and Bishop Salim Sayegh of the Catholic community in Jordan.

The King also received Admiral John Redd of the U.S. Marine Forces, who is currently on a visit to Jordan as part of the joint U.S.-Jordanian military exercises underway in the south.

The audience was attended by Mr. Qasem, and the chief of the staff for land forces.

Jordan, Israel sign accord on cooperation in energy

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN -- Jordan and Israel on Sunday signed an agreement on cooperation in the energy sector, calling for joint studies in energy consumption, gas and oil exploration and sharing of expertise and technology. The agreement, signed at Aqaba by Minister of Energy and Mineral Resources Samih Darwazeh and his Israeli counterpart Gonen Segev, also calls for cooperation in developing solar and wind energy as well as shale oil, which is present in abundance in both

countries. The accord is the second agreement related to economy signed by Jordan and Israel since they signed a peace treaty on Oct. 26. The first, signed in May, was related to cooperation in tourism through joint tour

packages complementing each other's tourism potential.

Jordan and Israel have also signed several other accords, but they mostly deal with border procedures and security arrangements. Agreements on trade and

transport are two other key accords that remain to be signed by the two sides. Drafts of the accords has been finalised, but it was not immediately known when' they will be signed. In addition to cooperation in

sharing technology and expertise in energy-related areas, the agreement signed on Sunday also calls for feasibility studies for carrying gas and oil across the region.

Israel and Qatar have been reported to be discussing pumping Qatari gas to the Israeli coast for use in Israel as well as possible export to the Mediterranean countries. If the project materialises

Jordan would be one of its key transit points.

Another provision in the Jordanian-Israeli accord on energy is cooperation in conducting seismological studies in the Wadi Araba region and using shale rock to produce energy. Jordan is estimated to hold at least 40 billion tonnes of the rock, but the relatively low international prices of oil makes it commercially unseasible to exploit the resource.

developed a low-cost technology to produce energy from shale rock and that technology could help Jordan, energy experts say. The agreement also allows Jordanians to monitor radiation levels at Israel's Dimona reactor in the Naqab desert and satisfy Jordanian

However, Israel has

concerns since the reactor

(Continued on page 7)

Grieving U.S. peace mission pledges to return to Bosnia

of the three diplomats.

SARAJEVO (Agencies) -The grieving members of an American peace mission left for home on Sunday escorting the bodies of three diplomats who died when their vehicle plunged off the perilous Mount Igman road into the Bosnian capital of

A British helicopter went down in the Adriatic Sea while on a training flight Sunday morning and four crew members were missing, U.N. spokesman Chris Gunness Rescuers picked up one

Saraievo.

crew member, he said. The Lynx helicopter was

part of a rapid reaction force for Bosnia. It was flying near the U.N. base at Ploce, some 60 kilometres northwest of Dubrovnik on the Adriatic

Mr. Gunness said weather was bad when the helicopter went down at 10:25 a.m. (0825 GMT).

President Bill Clinton meanwhile vowed the United States would pursue its efforts to end the bloodshed in Bosnia despite the deaths

What they would want us to do is to press ahead, and that is what we intend to do."

A Russian Foreign Ministry official said Moscow remained optimistic peace could be achieved in former Yugoslavia this year and an international summit convened in October.

But the American initiative to try to end four years of ethnic bloodshed in the former communist state of Yugoslavia was certain to beslowed down.

Richard Holbrooke, the assistant secretary of state who was leading the delegation and was in a separtate car, said a meeting with Ser-bian President Slobodan Milosevic scheduled for Sunday would be postponed for eight days.

Most warfronts were quiet but three children were killed when two Bosnian Serb shells blasted the U.N. "safe area" of Gorzade in eastern Bosnia on Sunday, a U.N. spokes-

The shells struck the Mus-

lim enclave more than an hour apart, he said. Bosnian Serbs surrounded the government-held pocket in which about 65,000 Muslims are bottled up.
After the U.S. diplomats

are buried, the new American team will be formed to pursue what Washington has called a window of opportunity for settling the war in Bosnia and the overall crisis in former Yugoslavia.

Rebuilding the American team, which lost three of its most experienced members. will be difficult.

"We lost three-fifths of our negotiating team today," said Mr. Holbrooke in Sarajevo on Saturday.

Helicopters ferried the flag-draped coffins and two injured Americans to the Croatian port of Split. The only members of the delegation to escape injury, Mr. Holbrooke and General Wes Clark, also left for home.

They will fly to Ramstein air base in Germany before

(Continued on page 7)

to remain open listamic foreign ministers to discuss the plight of fellow Muslims in Bosnia had been postponed because of the lack of a quorum, the official SABA news agency reported. The agency quoted a Foreign Ministry official as saying 21 out of the 52 members of the Organisation of the Islamic Conference (OIC) had responded favourably to attend the meeting which was scheduled to take place on Aug. 26.

Turkey asks S. Arabia

to stop executions RIYADH (R) - A Turkish envoy gave Saudi Arabia a message from President Suleyman Demirel on Sunday, urging Riyadh to stop the executions of 20 Turkish nationals convicted of drug trafficking, diplomats said. Nevzal Valcintas, an envoy of Turkish Prime Minister Tansu Ciller, handed the message for King Fahd to Crown Prince Abdullah Ben Abdul Aziz calling for the detained Turks to be freed, Turkish diplomats said. Earlier, Saudi Arabia said it had rejected a previous appeal from Mr. Demirel for the authorities to halt the beheadings of 20 Turks sentenced to death and accused Ankara of interferthe prototol ment accused Ankara of interferbirth control in accused Ankara of interfering in its internal affairs. The
official Saudi newspaper Al
Ryad said Sunday that "it is
than the pill, having
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Arafat insists on complete agreement before signing it over of civilian powers in a total of 40 fields, an Israeli CAIRO (AFP) — Palestinian

leader Yasser Arafat will only go to Washington to sign an accord with Israel when the two sides have reached a complete agreement on the next phase of Palestinian selfrule, he told a newspaper here Sunday.

Mr. Arafat, who agreed a partial autonomy deal for the West Bank with Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres in the Egyptian port of Taba on Aug. 11, said more differences had emerged between the two sides in the past few

He told the government daily Al Ahram Al Massai that differences over watersharing and security for the town of Hebron, where 400 Israeli settlers live surrounded by 110,000 Palestinians, had raised doubts over whether a full deal could be signed on the White House lawn in September as planned.

"So far, I haven't received an invitation to attend the signing ceremony of the accord. But if I receive one, I won't take any notice until we have settled the outstanding points with the Israeli

side," he told the paper. The Israeli cubinet meanwhile endorsed the transfer of more civilian powers to the Palestinians on the West Bank as part of the autonomy

accords, Prime Minister Yit-

zhak Rabin's spokeswoman

said.
The handover of responsibility for agriculture, insurance, labour, municipal affairs, postal services, petrol and gas, statistics, and trade and industry would now be signed with the PLO in the coming days, spokeswoman Aliza Goren said.

Israel wants a signing ceremony at the Red Sea resort of Eilat, where autonomy negotiations are continuing, while the Palestinian National Authority (PNA) favours Cairo, Ms. Goren said. It would take three or four

weeks to complete the handover, she added. West Bank army administration chief Major General Oren Shahor told reporters the process would start during the coming week.

The cabinet session chaired by Mr. Rabin unanimously endorsed a deal struck by Israel and the Pulestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) in Cairo on July 11 to cede control over the eight additional powers, Mr. Goren

But control over more than 20 other areas is still under negotiations.

Israeli and PLO negotiators were due to resume talks on the second phase of autonomy late Sunday in Palestinian areas and elections to an autonomy council. One of the main obstacles to the spread of autonomy across the West Bank is the question of water resources. which are all under Israeli The PLO has demanded

army redeployment outside

international arbitration of the issue in a bid to obtain a greater share of resources. Agriculture Minister Yaacov Tsur, who is in charge of water in Israel, was to meet PLO economy 'minister" Ahmad Qouriea in Eilat on Sunday in a fresh bid to settle the issue.

Meanwhile, thousands of Palestinians left self-ruled Gaza for work in Israel on Sunday as the Jewish state lifted a 10-day closure of the strip, a Palestinian official Elsewhere in Gaza, a

patrol but no one was injured, the army said. Israel lifted the closure at 4 a.m. (0100 GMT) two days after Palestinian police captured a militant from the Islamic Hamas group in Gaza suspected of planning a

suicide bombing inside Israel.

Wael Nassar and another

bomb went off near an Israeli

Hamas militant gave themselves up at the end of a The second phase, which is three-hour standoff with already 13 months behind (Continued on page 7) schedule, includes the handSharif Zeid, top Japanese official review relations and MENA summit

AMMAN (Petra) — Prime Minister Sharif Zeid Ben Shaker on Sunday discussed with the Director of the Japanese Foreign Ministry's Middle East and North Africa (MENA) Department, Kensaku Hogen, prepara-tions for the MENA economic summit, which will

praised economic cooperation between Japan and Jordan.

the Japanese private sector will have strong pre-

Mideast, page 3.

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By Alistair Bell Reuter

ANKARA — Outrage over the beheading of four Turks in Saudi Arabia is damaging the Islamist movement in Muslim but officially secular Turkey, political analysts said.

The executions, carried out for drug smuggling under the Saudi interpretation of Islamic Sharia law, are being held up by secularists and a sensationalist Turkish press as an example of what could be in store for Turkey if Islamists are not halted.

"These incidents show once again that we have to protect the secular republic." Deputy Prime Minister Hikmet Cetin told relatives of some of the 40 Turks still facing execution in Saudi Arabia.

.Big advances by the Islam-based Welfare Party in local elections last year awoke secularist fears of a return to Sharia in Turkey. scrapped in the 1920s in Westernising reforms.

Welfare has not specifically said it will implement Islamic law if it came to power, and its control of Ankara and Istanbul, won at the 1994 polls, has meant little change in city life.

But the party's critics suspect welfare conceals ambitions to convert Turkey into a strict Islamic state. "The executions have

been highly negative for them. On the one hand they say there's no justification in Islam for it, but on the other hand they're not getting up and protesting," said Tevfik Kizginkaya of the secularist Ataturk Philosophy Society. Welfare deputy leader

Abdullah Gul told Reuters it was wrong to see the executions as the will of Islam. Party leader Necmettin Erbakan has said he will write to Saudi King Fahd pleading for mercy for the remaining Turks.

The party says Mr. Erbakan in the past successfully

By Karin Laub

The Associated Press

OCCUIED JERUSALEM

after forcing him to dig his

own grave. Two army cooks

stab to death three captives.

A commander orders his men

to shoot at close range two

enemy soldiers whose hands

Asked who might be cap-

able of such war crimes, just

about everyone in Israel

would have pointed to a fore-

ign army, but never sought

That was until this month

when long-suppressed war-

time accounts poured forth

about the killings of Arab

prisoners and civilians by

Israeli soldiers in at least

The disclosures shook

Israel, a country of citizen .

soldiers raised in the belief

that they hold the high moral ground on the battlefield with

Painful questions emerged

from the national debate:

Why were the atrocities kept

secret for so long? How much

did Israel's leaders know?

Why were war criminals not

punished? Should — and

the Arab armies.

three Middle East wars,

are raised in surrender.

the culprits at home.

- A soldier kills a prisoner

contacts in the kingdom to save a Turk facing execu-

Protesters in Kilis, the conservative hometown of two of the beheaded Turks, burned a Saudi flag and shouted slogans denouncing Sharia at a demonstration last week.

Turkish media have led public anger at the execu-tion of the Turks, convicted for smuggling an aphrodisiac drug.

Newspapers have printed gory photographs of Saudi beheadings and mutilations in Somalia as a warning of what they call the horrors of Sharia.

One daily published a cartoon of an executioner dressed in Arab robes with Welfare's initials written on them about to decapitate a victim symbolising Turkish secularism.

Analysts said the anti-Saudi atmosphere may help Prime Minister Tansu Ciller win back some of the support her right-wing party is believed to have lost to

"I'm very impressed by the way the government is manipulating the media. It does put Welfare in a difficult position," one Western

Welfare's 38 deputies were Ms. Ciller's most implacable opponents in her recent attempts to liberalise the military-era constitu-

Ms. Ciller hailed the eventual approval of the changes last month as a victory over Islamist ex-

Turkish Islamists say their opponents are taking advantage of the Saudi executions to portray them in

a bad light.
"Maybe a despotic administration has (approved the beheadings) too quickly and without investigating thoroughly. But a sector of the Turkish media is using them as a vehicle to attack the Islamic religion," the Islamist daily Zaman said.

The Egyptians, acting in

part of appease a hardline

domestic opposition, have

demanded an accounting,

and Israel's foreign minister

pare a report for Cairo to

prevent a further strain in

Controversy also touched

some of Israel's leading

generals-turned-politicians,

including Prime Minister Yit-

zhak Rabin, Housing Minis-

ter Binyamin Ben Eliezer and

opposition candidate for

prime minister.

Rafael Eitan, a right-wing

Some quickly warned that

soul-searching would only

undermine national morale.

Former Defence Minister

Ariel Sharon spoke of an "act

But others said that as

Israel is making peace with its

Arab neighbours, it could

well afford a more honest

that we weren't really strong

and that we mustn't talk ab-

out our weaknesses. But now

Israel is more sure of itself,

more mature," said historian Benny Morris. "States, like

'We always had this fear

of national suicide."

look at the past.

relations.

has asked the army to pre-

Palestinians in Hebron get little water as settlers swim in pools

HEBRON, Occupied West Bank (AP) — Prime Münister Yitzhak Rabin ordered the military government in the West Bank to find an immediate solution Sunday to a water shortage that has left Palestinian homes in Hebron without running

Residents of the city said a70 per cent of the homes had no running water and that there was a one-week wait to receive water from city trucks.

Palestinian youth drew water from wells and carried plastic buckets to their homes Sunday, while truckers hauled water around the city and selling for as much as 130 shekels (about \$40) for two cubic

"For sure we are making lots of money," said truck driver Younis Asfour.

The water shortage has been going on all summer, but first drew the attention of Israelis over the weekend, when television contrasted scenes of driedup pipes and truckers scalping water with pictures of Jewish settlers in nearby Kiryat Arba swimming in pools and tending lush gar-

"Water hasn't reached my house for two months." said vegetable peddler Fahme Abu Sneneh, a father of seven. "Everything is for the settlers and we have to suffer."

Hebron Mayor Mustafa Natche accused the Israelis of taking more than their share of the water and of charging Palestinians 20 times more than the settlers for the water.

Israeli water officials said Israel was supplying Heb-ron with 10,000 cubic metres of water daily, butthat half of that was lost due to leaks and thefts.

signed a contract in January

to finish the plant and pro-

vide two light water reactors.

The United States has de-

nounced the deal, saying that

anything enhancing Iranian

nuclear expertise could also

eventually help it to make

Also Sunday, Iran's

ambassador to Moscow,

Mehdi Safari, told the

English-language Iran News that a total of 4,000 Russians

are working in Iran on diffe-

He also predicted that the current level of \$800 million

worth of Russian-Iranian

trade would soar due to coop-

eration agreements such as

the nuclear deal and joint oil

projects envisioned in the

of cruelty, but that they were

outweighed by Arab atroci-

"He thought that if you

started fiddling around with

the morality of warfare, peo-

ple would be afraid to carry

out their duties," Mr. Morris

mer legislator, said prisoner

killings were treated forgi-

vingly by all of Israel's lead-

Mr. Bar-Zohar, who

served as spokesman for

then-Defence Minister

Moshe Dayan after the 1967

war, recalled that his boss

only grudgingly addressed

ing of three Egyptian prison-

ers by two Israeli army cooks.

in 1967, Mr. Bar-Zohar said

he urged Dayan to speak out.

But Dayan forgot and when

JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

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Having witnessed the kill-

Michael Bar-Zohar, a for-

spirit of his army.

atomic weapons.

rent projects.

They blamed the shortage on mismangement by Palestinian city officials.

"Water is coming to Hebron, but the problem is the network there, the distribution," Amos Epstein, director of the Mekorot Water company, told Israel

Cabinet ministers demanded Sunday that something be done to alleviate

"We as lords are acting in a brutal and ethnocentric way," said Communications Minister Shulamit Aloni. "What we are seeing is horrifying. I hope that our people who are responsible for the water will understand that there are things that are forbidden even when you are a Jewish conqueror.'

The tug-of-war over water, the Middle East's most precious resource is one of the most difficult issues left talks on expanding Palestinian self-rule in the West Bank.

Israel gets more than a third of their water from the occupied West Bank and insist on keeping control over springs there even after Palestinian autonomy begins. The Palestinians want water sources to be handed over to them."

The best solution is for us to kick out the settlers so we can have our water and land and live freely," said Munther Muhtaseb, a 31year-old college administrator in Hebron.

Mayor Natche said the 80,000 residents needed two and a half times the amount the Israelis were giving them today. He said \$70,000 has been invested in repairing the pipes since May and that the city was seeking donations from Italy to continue the work.

Uganda reports attacks by Sudan-based rebels

Thousands of people have fled from villages near the Sudan-Uganda border in northwestern Uganda after anti-government rebels attacked from bases in Sudan, a Ugandan stateowned newspaper reported on Sunday.

The Sunday Vision paper said in a front-page report that the rebels launched aerial and land attacks on border villages in Koboko district with bombs and heavy artillery fire last week. The attack was blamed on

a new rebel group, the West Nile Bank Front (WNBF), which is led by Colonel Juma Oris, who was a commander in former dictator Idi Amin's army in the 1970s...

Residents fled with their belongings to Koboko town. 19 kilometres from the border, the newspaper said. It gave no casualty figures and said the rebels were being helped by Sudan government

troops.
Sunday Vision also reported heavy fighting between Sudanese troops and rebels of the Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA), which has been fighting a guerrilla war for the last 13 years. The rebels were fleeing pursuing government forces, it added. Mr. Amin, who ruled from

1971 to 1979 but is now living in exile in Saudi Arabia, was linked to the new rebel group in May, when it was reported to be recruiting men in northwest Uganda. Newspapers said the WNBF was being backed by Zaire and Sudan, and by opposition politicians in the country.

Politicians from the area say Mr. Amin, despite his bloodthirsty reputation, still has a strong following among his own tribesmen in northwest Uganda and among Muslims, who were favoured during his rule.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Iran protests questioning of Paris embassy employees

NICOSIA (AP) — Iran is protesting the questioning by French authorities of two Iranian embassy employees in connection with last week's bomb attack in Paris, the Islamic Republic News Agency reported. The French charge d'affaires was called to the foreign ministry in Tehran on Friday to hear a "strong protest" from the ministry's director-general for Western European affairs, Ali Ahani, IRNA reported Saturday night. The agency, monitored in Cyprus, quoted Mr. Ahani as telling the diplomat, who was summoned in the absence of the French ambassador, that the French action was contrary to international norms. It said he demanded an explanation. IRNA said the charge d'affaires, who was not named, promised to convey Iran's protest to the French government. In France, the authorities Saturday focused on Algerian extremists as the prime suspects for Thursday's attack, which wounded 17 people near the Arc de Triomphe. Investigators began narrowing the probe after a witness said he saw two North African men trying to stuff a package into a trash can near the famous archway minutes

AP Bahrain bureau chief dies

CAIRO (AP) - Aly Mahmoud, chief of bureau for the Associated Press in Bahrain, died Saturday in a Cairo hospital. He was 57. Cause of death was liver failure, with complications caused by diabetes, relatives said. Mahmoud joined the AP in his native Cairo in 1958 and transferred to the Beirut bureau in 1971. After covering the opening years of the Lebanese civil war, he opened the AP office in Bahrain in 1980 and headed it until his death. "Aly was a consummate professional, dedicated to reporting with accuracy, speed and insight," said Claude Erbsen, AP vice president and director of AP World Services. Tom Kent, the AP's international editor, said: "Aly was an accurate reporter with many exclusives to his credit and knew his region with uncanny accuracy." Survivors include: Mahmoud's wife, Rawhiya; three daughters, Dr. Nahed Aly of Lille, France; Nagwa Aly of New York, and Nahla Aly of Nicosia, Cyprus, and two sisters and seven brothers, all living in Egypt.

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Bank teller machine and school bombed

ISTANBUL (AP) - A bank and a primary school were damaged by firebombs Saturday in the Kadikoy district on the Asian side of the city. Nobody was injured. There was no immediate claim of responsibility for the overnight attacks. Various militant groups, including Kurdish separatists, leftist extremists and Muslim militants, have been active for years in this metropolis of 12 million. Banks and cash machines have been the target of a spate of similar attacks over the past six weeks. No one has claimed responsibility and there have been no arrests.

Dancing bears released to wild

KARACABEY (AP) — After years of being trained to dance for paying customers, 12 brown bears have been set free after being shown again how to live in the wild. They were among the 27 bears that have been under treatment for a year for various injuries resulting from their dancing years, the daily Hurriyet newspaper said. They were also trained to readjust to life in a wildlife sanctuary created especially for them. Bears moving on two feet in seeming harmony to tunes played by their owner is a favourite street show in poor neighbourhoods of some Turkish cities. Nearly 200 of them are believed to be used throughout the country: Animal rights activists, however, began a carte paign last year to rescue bears from owners who mistreal 19.7 them. The dancing bears taken away from their owners last! or vear were found in miserable shape. One baby bear was found to be dependent on alcohol. The soles of the feet of some were burnt apparently with hot iron when they failed: to dance during the initial training. The bears have been treated at Uludag University's veterinary school, about 300 kilometres southwest of Istanbul.

First Arab AIDS hot-line opens in October

CAIRO (AFP) - The first counselling hot line for AIDS victims in the Arab World will open in October in the Egyptian capital, health official Nasr Al Sayd told AFP on Saturday. The "Counsel and Hot-line Centre," to be opened in the Cairo slum of Imbaba, "will have three lines in service. Patients can call us 24 hours a day with complete confidentiality," said Mr. Sayed, who heads the AIDS programme in the Egyptian health ministry. "It is a matter of giving psychological help in their distress," he added. The centre, which will also study ways to stop the spread of AIDS in the Arab World, will employ 15 people as well as two doctors and two psychologists. The American Ford Foundation backed the centre with a \$300,000 grant, Mr. Sayed said. There are 300 people with full-blown AIDS in Egypt and 110 others carrying the HTV virus, Mr. Sayed said.

Singer Emad Abdul Haleem dies

CAIRO (AP) --- Emad Abdul Haleem, once hailed as the uccessor to the immensely popular Egyptian singer Abdul Haleem Hafez, has died of an apparent drug overdose. He was 35. Abdul Haleem's body was found Sunday morning on a busy street in Cairo, police officials said. He was taken to a hospital where a preliminary report by doctors said he died of a heroin overdose. When he started singing in the 1980s, Abdul Haleem's voice was likened to that of Abdul Haleem Hafez, one of the Arab World's most popular singers who died an untimely death in 1977. But his career took a turn for the worse after he began using drugs. Recently, Abdul Haleem was singing at a small Cairo

Some 3.000 more Russians Bushehr nuclear complex within three months, Mosare expected to participate in the project. The plant was cow's deputy atomic energy started by a German firm minister reportedly said Sunbefore the 1979 Islamic revolution.

Russians to start work at

Bushehr plant this year

The Islamic Republic News Agency (IRNA) quoted Yevgeny Reshenikov as saying midway through a

NICOSIA (Agencies) —

Russian experts will begin

construction work on Iran's

one-week visit to Iran that preliminary technical studies will soon be completed." Referring to U.S. pressure on Moscow to cancel the estimated \$800 million to \$1

billion deal, "the Russian official stressed that yielding to the U.S. pressure is out of question," according to the agency, monitoried in Cyp-He added that a Russian company would supply the

fuel needed for the power plant. About 200 Russian nuclear scientists have been in Bushehr since Moscow

through the affair, set in mo-

tion the disclosures when it

opened its archives to resear-

chers some two years ago,

being written about the 1956

Mideast war, including de-scriptions of prisoner killings.

admissions this month by re-

tired General Arye Biro — a

survivor of the Nazi camps -

that he killed 49 Egyptian

Several veterans then came

captives in the Sinai desert.

forward, saying they witnes-

sed killings of prisoners by

Israeli soldiers in 1956 and

of the atrocities remain un-

However, the dimensions

One historian said prisoner

Israel's wars. Another

killings occurred in all of

claimed that in 1967 alone,

some 1,000 Egyptians were

A new book written by a

former colonel and published

by the defence ministry re-

vealed that soldiers executed

dozens of Palestinian civilians

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AMMAN:

Dr. Fayez Dabbas

Dr. Ramzi Mzawi

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in the 1948 war.

shot dead after surrender.

This, in turn, led to public

One result was a book

Mr. Morris said.

Gulf and the Caspian Sea. Disclosures of PoW killings prompt Israeli soul-searching

could — they be prosecuted people, grow up." -- Some veterans complained Bar-Zohar reminded him af- unit captured some 20 Egyp-Ironically, the army itself, of distortion, saying there ter a speech to officers, the tians a day or two later, the which has remained silent may have been isolated acts minister returned to the Israelis lined the captives up podium and uttered one sentence: "It is forbidden to kill

prisoners.' Mr. Morris said the stage At the same time, Israel's was set by the 1948 war in military censor'silenced any which no Israeli soldier was attempt to report the prisonpunished for war crimes, er killings, said Israeli journalist Uri Avneri. He said his mainly because Prime Minislast unsuccessful attempt ter David Ben-Gurion felt it would weaken the fighting came in 1990.

Military historian Meir Pail said the army preferred to deal with the matter internally and that he knew of three or four soldiers who went to prison for war crimes.

One reason for secrecy was the fear that reports of Israeli atrocities would provide a pretext for enemy troops to kill Israeli captives.

However, some Israeli veterans said the hatred on both sides was so great at the time it was unlikely Arab troops needed a pretext.

Mr. Bar-Zohar recalled how his paratroop unit marched along the Suez Canal in the 1973 war and came across a dozen dead comrades lying face down, each with a bullet in the back of the head and hands tied behind the back. When Mr. Bar-Zohar's against a wall and cocked their weapons, preparing to shoot to avenge their com-But none of the Israelis

could pull the trigger, Mr. Bar-Zohar said, adding, "I was very proud at that moment.'

Despite such examples of humane conduct, more disclosures are likely. Mr. Biro has threatened to name accomplices if scapegoated, and others may level charges to settle political scores.

The attorney general has said he would check whether he could prosecute. However. Israel has no war crimes law and murder charges can only be filed for up to 20 years.

_Author Zeev Hefetz, a former government spokesman, said Israel might open itself up to criticism if it did not

"We have a problem because we have been militantly and correctly demanding justice for Nazi war criminals. It's a little bit late to argue now that if it was 40 years ago, let's forget it."

Jordan	TELEVISIO	N
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	20:30 The Bold and the Beautiful
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St. Mary of Nazareth Church
Sweitieh Tcl. 810740
Assemblies of God Church, Tcl.
632785.
St. Joseph Cherch Tcl. 624590.
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De la Saile Church Tel. 661757 Terrasancta Church Tel: 622366 Church of the Ammuncia Anglican Church Tel. 630851, Tel. 628543. an Catholic Church Tel ian Orthodox Charch Tel. zim Church Tel. 771751.

Ammaa 65252(f) Evangelical Lutheran Church Tel: 824328. German-speaking Evangelical Con-gregation Tcl. 684195 The Latter-Day Saints Tcl. 654932 Church of Nazarene Tcl.675691. The Evangelical Local Church in Tel. 811295

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EMERGENCIES Food Control Centre 637111

Dr. Akram Haddad 985550 Khalifeh pharmacy 985417

Civil Defence Department 661111 Civil Defence Immediate Rescue | 630341 | Civil Defence Emergency | 199 | Rescue Police | 192, 621111, 637777 | Fire Brigade | 617101 | Blood Bank | 775121

Public Security Department Hotel Complaints Price Complaints Dr. Awni Hawamdeh 777665 Dr. Abdul Wahab Awad ... 846070

Water and Sewerage 897467 787111 Telephone Information (directory assistance) 010230 Central Amman Telephone 62310 773111 Radio Jordan ... Water Authorny Jordan Electricity Authority 815615 680100

Electric Power

HOSPITALS

RJ Flight Information 08-53200

Queen Alia Intl. Airport 08-53200

Hussein Medical Centre 813813/32

Khalidi Maternity, J. Amn Akilch Maternity. J. Ann. 642441/2 644281/6 Jahai Amman Maternity 642362 Shmeisani Hosnital

University Hospital 666127/37 Italian, Al-Muhajreen .. *777* 101/3 Al-Bashir, J. Ashrafich Amal Hospital The Arab Center for Heart and Special Surgery ZARQA: Zarqa Govt. Hospital (U9)983323 Zarqa National Hospital

Ihp Sina Hospital (09)986732 Al Hikma Modern Hospital (09)990990 Princess Basma Hospital ... Greek Catholic Hospital Ibn Al Nafees Hospital

> QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL

Princess Haya Hospital (03)314111.

AIRPORT

This information is supplied by Royal Jordanian (RJ) information department at the Oucen Alia In-ternational Airport Tel. (04)53200-5, where it should always be veri-

ARRIVALS Royal Jordanian (RJ) (Terminal 1)

New Delhi (RI .. Dubai, Abu Dhabi (RJ) Bangkok (add) (RJ) 17:45 New York, Amsterdam (RJ) Bangkok (RJ)
...., Casablanca, Tunis (RJ) Bangkok (add) (RJ)

Other Flights (Terminal 2)

... Muscat, Abu Dhubi (GF) Kiev (6U)

Dubai (EK) Beirut (ME) ... London (BA) **DEPARTURES**

Royal Jordanian (RJ) **Flights** (Terminal 1)

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TRAIN

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MARKET PRICES Upper/lower price in fils per kg.

Appic	200v 600
Carrot	120 / 80
Cucumbers (large)	330/250
Cucumbor (con-u)	150 / 100
rigs Garlic	380/280
Lemon	620 / 450
Marrow (small)	200 / 200
Mulukhia	130 / 60
Okra Onion (deu)	750 1400
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Haleem dies

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Agriculture

The King Abdullah Mosque and tower of the Coptic Church In the Abdali district of

Conference to dig deep into history of Muslim-Christian relations

By Beatrix Immenkamp Special to the Jordan Times

Amman - Opening today in Amman is a pioneering conference bringing together scholars from Middle Eastern, European and American universities with the aim of providing the scholarly essence for a Muslim-Christian dialogue.

"For the first time in the Middle East region, academics of international standing are getting together to establish facts regarding the historical perception of Muslims and Christians of each other," says Khairy Janbek, Director of Research at the Royal Institute of Interfaith Studies in Amman, which organised

the conference. Under the title of "Christian Perceptions of Islam; d to be used throughout Muslim Perceptions of ts. however, bepar in Christianity: The Historical , 21 the area of promoting interfrom owners who mixed Record", the conference is -? faith dialogue as well as the away from their man hosting Muslim. Christian we general public. shape. One baby have and Jewish scholars who According to Mr. Janbek, hol. The soles of the last will engage in four days of th hot iron when there's academic discourse on hisning. The bears have be torical subjects such as the veterinary school about role and position of Christians and Jews in an Islamic state, the thoughts of histori-

Christianity, the writings of unselling hot line for AF various Christian groups ill open in October at inside and outside the Mid-Nasr Al Savd told Affe die East on Islam over the Hot-line Centre." 10: centuries, the position of the baba, "will have three Bible in early Muslim anti-4 hours a day with come Christian polemic and intered, who heads the All confessional relations in

y ways to stop the spreak conference is on relations employ 15 people as add between march and relations employ 15 people a was between members of the two gists. The American k faiths in pre-modern times, with a \$300,000 grant. It manages with a \$300,000 grant. with a 3.500,000 grant. papers will also discuss the with full-blown AID: papers will also discuss the HIV virus. Mr. See Islamic depictions of Christianity in the 200 and contemporary images of Islam and the West. Presentations will include a case study on Muslim-Christian

relations in America. Concluding the conference will be a paper which will offer a "framework for Muslim-Christian relations".

The organisers stress that the aim of the conference is not to engage in a Muslim-Christian dialogue, nor to address political questions, but to establish the historical facts of Christian-Muslim relations.

The Royal Institute for Interfaith Studies, which opened under the patronage of His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan in July last year, seeks to provide a venue for the study of Christianity and Judaism in relation to Islam. Its findings are made available to institutes directly engaged in

the aim of the institute's work is to eliminate what he calls "Islamophobia" in the West by demonstrating that successful and peaceful coexistence between the three faiths has historically been possible.

"By relying on historical data, we wish to demonstrate that, in the past, members of the three faiths were able to live together and to engage in dialogue without developing phobias about each other", Mr. Janbek said in an interview with the Jor-

He added that "this is in line with Jordan's foreign policy, which aims to promote interfaith and intercommunal dialogue and understanding."

The institute conducts research, publishes books and organises lectures, conferences or workshops in the fields of Christian and Judaic studies with direct or indirect relevance to the Arab and Islamic world.

The institute has so far published one book entitled Christianity in the Arab World. Books which have been commissioned or are being prepared for publication at the moment include a reference work called Christians and Christianity in the Koran and Tafsir which will cite all Koranic references to Christians and Christianity, along with the variant interpretations of these verses as attested to in the works of tafsir from the 10th century A.D. to the present. Also being prepared for publication are the Protestant mis-sionary reports from differ ent parts of Ottoman Syria, and a book on Judaism and the Arab World.

Mr. Janbek, who describes himself as a habitual cynic, is amazed at the achievements of the institute in the first year of its existence.

"I am amazed at what we have already achieved in the field of research and publication. And for such a young institute to organize a major conference is a big achievement," he said.

"The institute is unique to the Arab World, and most likely to the Islamic world. because it accepts the contributions of Israeli scholars in its newletter," he said.

Two scholars from Israel working on Muslim-Christian relations are participating in the conference.

Lebanon to agricultural agreement

AMMAN (J.T.) - Jordan and - Lebanon Sunday opened three days of meetings aimed at promoting the exchange of agricultural products and upgrading an existing agreement on trade. Lebanese Minister of

Shawoi Fakhouri, who is heading the Lebanese side, requested at the start of a meeting with the Jordanian side led by Minister of Agriculture Mansour Ben Tarif that Jordan purchase additional agricultural products from Lebanon to help adjust the balance of trade which he said is in favour of Jordan by a ratio of five to one. Lebanon, he said, currently has a surplus of potatoes,

Agricultural Marketing Organisation Director General Salem Lawzi told the Jordan Times that Mr. Fakhouri and Mr. Ben Tarif were expected to sign a new accord on Tuesday.

apples, grapes and citrus

fruits which Jordan needs.

Jordan has usually imported apples, cherries, oranges and lemons from Lebanon.

Premier inspects work on new international telephone exchange

AMMAN (J.T.) — Prime Minister Sharif Zeid Ben Shaker Sunday inspected work on the first phase of a JD3 million international telephone exchange at Tlu Al Ali district which is being conducted by German, French and Jordanian firms.

Minister of Post and Communications Jamal Sarairch briefed the Prime Minister on the progress of the work and said the project was designed to make available 10,800 additional circuits.

The minister said the project, which, when completed will be named the National and International Switch

VISITING A SPECIAL FOUNDATION: Her

Royal Highness Princess

Haya Bint Al Hussein,

the Honorary President

of Queen Alia Founda-

tion for Hearing and Speech Sunday meets

with foundation officials

and later toured the var-

ious sections of its centre

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foundation was estab-

lished in 1978 (Petra

hearing and/or

Centre, also entails connecting the new exchange with the Bakaa satellite telecommunications complex and the other exchanges in the country as well as other planned exchanges in accordance with a national telecommunications programme which is being executed by the Telecommunications Corporation (TCC).

According to Mr. Suraireh, the project is being funded by a loan from the Jeddah based Islamic Development

The Prime Minister said the government appreciates

the TCC's efforts and he urged the concerned officials to speed up the work so that the project will be completed on schedule.

TCC Assistant Director General and Project Director Afram Jamil said a local company was awarded a contract to set up the required 4,750-square-metre building at the cost of JD 1.5

He said that, Siemans, a major German firm, was awarded the contract for supplying and installing the equipment, and Alcatel, a French company was contructed to supply equipment

needed to link the new exchange with the national telephone network.

According to Mr. Jamil the international section of the Tla Al Ali exchange became operational Sunday. The local section, he said, is expected to make available an additional 35,000 telephone lines by Jan. 1996.

Mr. Jamil expressed hope that the new internationa service provided by the new exchange will offer addi-tional facilities to the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) summit schedule for late October.





Minister of Higher Education Rateh Saoud Sunday. chairs a meeting of the Higher Council for Science and Technology (HCST), attended by His Royal Highness Prince Ghazi Ben Mohammad, the cultural secretary of His Majesty King Hussein, and Minister of Culture Samih Habashneh, to discuss university admissions policies, university study through correspondence and a financial report on the Yarmouk University Investment Fund prepared by the fund's com-

AMMAN (Petra) - The Ministry of Public Works and Housing Sunday said that nearly 70 per cent of the JD 12 million Court of Justice building being con-structed in the Abdali district has been completed and the ministry expects the structure to be ready for

occupancy by next May.
Sharari Najada, director of the ministry's Buildings

The building is being constructed on a 28-dunum of land directly behind the the

Mr. Najada said the com-

prise the Higher Court of Justice, the Criminal Court the Court of First Instance. the Small Claims Court, and the Court of Appeals, in addition to the Amman Muncipality's court, and the customs and income tax

the main structure has been completed a large car park will be constructed and 28 outdoor stalls will be set up where the public will be able to to fill out court related forms, purchase stamps and have photocopies

ed in Aug. 1992, as part of a Ministry of Public Works' plan to build government offices and gradually move out of the several rented buildings it occupies.

Court of Justice building is 70% finished — official

Department, said the 8storey complex will contain 47,000 square metres of

Parliament.

ple will house court halls, judges chambers, and the offices of the prosecutor and notary public. It will comMr. Najada said that when

Work on the project start-

Study says workforce at 1.03m Jordanians

AMMAN (Petra) — A study conducted by a Ministry of Labour researcher and released Sunday estimated the total Jordanian workforce at 1.029 million against a total population of 4.028 million, according to a general census conducted in

The study said that the number of workers expected to enter the labour market in the Kingdom in the next five years will be 48,000 annual-

The current unemployment rate is 18.2 per cent of the total workforce, the study said.

It said workers entering

the labour market in 1997 could reach 53,079 compared to 44,998 who are expected to enter the market by the end of this year.

The study said that based on calculations universities and colleges will have graduated 32.5 per cent of jobseekers between 1994 and 2000, and the remaining amount from vocational training institutions.

The study noted that most women graduates seek jobs in the teaching profession and that women constitute 14 per cent of the total workforce at the present level.

The research was conducted by Taher Jaradat.

Murayama itinerary could include Jordan, say officials

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter .

AMMAN — Japanese Prime Minister Tomlichi Murayama will visit the Middle East in September, but Jordan has not yet been included in his itinerary, diplomatic sources said Sun-

Foreign Ministry sources in Tokyo said that although Saudi Aradia, Istaei, Sytia and Egypt have been identified as the four countries included in the mid-September visit, efforts are under way to include Jordan.

"Ît is not clear yet whether Jordan could be included in the prime minister's schedule, but a strong effort is under way in Tokyo to do so," according to a foreign ministry source. "Jordan is a very important country in the Middle East,

and top Japanese diplomats dealing with the region have strongly recommended that the Kingdom be included in the prime minister's itinerary," added the source. Japanese embassy sources

in Amman confirmed that Mr. Murayama will be visiting the Middle East but said they were also not sure whether Jordan would be one of the countries the prime minister would visit.

source, the decision to make the trip was made at "short notice," and "if Jordan is not included in the visit then it is only a matter of shortage of time. It has no reflection of the high regard Japan bas for Jordan.' Tokyo attaches high

According to the Tokyo

mportance to the role of Jordan in the regional context as well as on a bilateral said the source. adding that the Japanese government" remained committed to the essence of the Tokyo Declaration." The Tokyo Declaration,

adopted in late May at the conclusion of a "Jordan Week" in the Japanese capital attended by Their Royal Highnesses Crown Prince Hassan and Princess Sarvath, affirmed that Japan sees Jordan as the gateway to the Middle East and that the two countries would strive to consolidate relations at all levels.

In the immediate context, Japan is a strong supporter of the Jordanian-backed proposal for a Middle East development bank finance regional economic development.

Mr. Murayama is expected reiterate Japan's support for the Middle East peace process and Tokyo's willingness to assist the proposed Middle East development bank by contributing to its Yuji Ikeda, Japan's special

ambassador to the Middle East peace process, said in Tokyo last month that Japan felt that "a failure to announce the establishment of the development bank at the Amman summit will send a negative message to all parties concerned peace process."

He was referring to the Middle East and North Africa economic summit scheduled to be held in

Amman in October. Japanese foreign ministry officials, in concert with the embassy bere, are working closely with the private sector to ensure a strong Japanese presence at the summit, officials said.

In the political context, Japan might also send observers to Palestinian elections to be held in the West Bank and Gaza Strip for a self-rule council, reports in the Japanese media said.

Japanese prime ministers have visited Saudi Arabia and Egypt as well as Jordan in the past.

Mr. Murayama will be the first Japanese prime minister to visit Syria and Israel.

JOB VACANCIES

A JOINT VENTURE COMPANY AT AMMAN HAS VACANCIES FOR THE FOLLOWING POSTS, FOR IMMEDIATE APPOINTMENT.

Post 1

PERSONAL SECRETARY - INSTITUTE DIPLOMA (SECRETARIAL), KNOWLEDGE OF SHORTHAND DESIRABLE.

- CAPACITY TO TRANSLATE FROM ARABIC INTO ENGLISH AND

COMPREHENSIVE KNOWLEDGE OF SECRETARIAL DUTIES, ENGLISH AND ARABIC TYPEWRITING. MINIMUM FIVE YEARS EXPERIENCE AS PERSONAL SECRETARY.

POST 2 CASHIER CUM ACCOUNTANT - UNIVERSITY DEGREE OR DIPLOMA IN ACCOUNTANCY.

 MINIMUM 2 YEARS RELEVANT EXPERIENCE. TECHNICAL ASSISTANT (DOCUMENTATION)

- UNIVERSITY DEGREE OR TECHNICAL DIPLOMA. - MINIMUM 2 YEARS EXPERIENCE IN MAINTENANCE OF OFFICE RECORDS/DRAWINGS/DOCUMENTS.

A) FOR ALL THE THREE POSTS, KNOWLEDGE OF PC OPERATIONS AND FLUENCY IN BOTH ARABIC AND ENGLISH LANGUAGE (READING, WRITING AND SPOKEN) IS A MUST. B) CANDIDATES MUST BE JORDANIAN NATIONALS.

C) UPPER AGE LIMIT 35 YEARS. D) FOR POSTS 2 AND 3 ONLY MALE CANDIDATES NEED APPLY. CANDIDATES FULFILLING THE ABOVE REQUIREMENTS MAY PLEASE FORWARD THE APPLICATIONS CLEARLY INDICATING THE POST APPLIED FOR ALONG WITH PHOTOGRAPH & C.V. IN ENGLISH TO P.O.BOX 926787, AMMAN 11110, NOT LATER THAN 31.8.1995

WHAT'S GOING ON

DARAT AL FUNUN SUMMER '95 EXHIBITIONS

Works of graphic art by several artists at the South Gallery.

Photography show "Elements in Harmony" by Hala Hodieb at the Blue House.

Radi at the Garden of the Blue House. "Early Morning Scribbles" by MARKET PRICE Lebanese artist Amin Al Basha and Jordanian artist Daine Bir All pper lower price in the pt Night Scribbles" by Amin Al Basha and artist Al: Basha

Ceramic shop at the lower Garden.

Sculpture by Rajwa Bint Ali at the Open Air Sculpture Workshop.

 Works by contemporary artists at the Central Gallery .

3-D experiments in calligraphy by

Usama Khalidi at the library.

 "The Maids," (written by Jean Genet) starring Majid Al Qasas and Najwa Kondakji at the Royal Cultural Centre, Main Theatre at 8:30 p.m.

PLAYS

* "Badranah," (in Arabic) at the Royal Cultural Centre at 7:00 p.m.

LECTURE

 "Recent Research at Umm Qais-Gadara" by Ms. Susanne Kerner, director of th German Protestant Institute for Archaeology, at the Friends of Archaeology Center at 6: 30 p.m.

EXHIBITIONS

* Oil paintings by Yassin Al Mohammadawi at Baladna Art Gallery.

Paintings by "Pioneers of the Fifties" Isma'il and Suzanne Al Sheikhly, Khalid Qassab, and Dr. Nuri Behjet at Orfali Art Gallery, Umm Utheina.

* Exhibition demonstrating the developments of cinema over the past century at the French Cultural Centre.

Australian delegation to lobby in Europe for support against French nuclear tests

multi-party Australian delegation is to make an eightnation European visit next month seeking support for opposition to French nuclear tests, a minister said Sunday.

The mission will aim to get backing for "constructive measures" against the planned test series at Mururoa Atoll, including a U.N. general assembly resolution for an immediate ban on all testing, said Gordon Bilney, Pacific Island affairs minister and a leader of the six-member delegation.

France has said it will a start a new series of eight tests at the Atoll next month. The six-member parliamentary delegation will leave Sept. 2 on a visit taksing in Bonn, Brussels, London, Paris, the Hague, Stockholm, Copenhagen and

was announced. It would brief governments on a declaration on nuclear testing endorsed at last week's meeting in Brisbane of environment ministers from South Pacific countries, Mr. Bilney said.

Vienna, returning Sept. 17, it

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The serious misgivings and profound concerns expressed by the governments represented in Bris-. bane stem from the significant gaps in data available to the international scientific community and the lack of

candour and transparency on the part of the French government." he said.

Mr. Bilney called on the French government to meet the pacific countries' request "for open access by the scientific community to the test zones, and to all scientific data from past tests."

The health of South Pacific islanders should be systematically assessed to measure the impact of French testing, John Best, president of the Australian Faculty of Public Health Medicine said Sunday. "There is evidence and

anecdotes that there is increasing thyroid cancer in the Pacific," he said in an interview, adding there was a need for "a systematic review of what's going on." In a letter published in the Medical Journal of Australia, Mr. Best asked doctors to help pay for placing anti-nuclear test advertisements in French newspa-

The adverts would bring Australia's concerns "as close to the French people as the morning baguette," he

Australian and New Zealand doctors have raised only about 14,000 dollars (US\$10,000) towards an estimated 130,000 dollars

Other delegation members are Roger Price and Garrie Gibson of the ruling Labour Party, opposition foreign affairs spokesman Alexander Downer of the Liberal Party, former National Party leader Ian Sinclair and Vicki Bourne, foreign affairs

Peace Boat denied entry to Senegal port

tion Democrat Party.

spokesperson for the opposi-

A Japanese boat cruising the world on an anti-nuclear mission has been denied a port call at Dakar after holding a protest in Marseilles last week, Peace Boat headquarters said here Sunday.

The boat, carrying 350 Japanese members of the non-governmental organisation, was denied permission to dock in the former French colony and banned from entering Senegalese waters, the group said.

Peace Boat said it suspected the denial was linked to a demonstration in Marseilles last week by some 120 cruise members against France's planned nuclear tests in the South Pacific.

The 15,000-tonne Kereliya has continued its four-month cruise with stops in 19 countries, including China, Vietnam, Egypt and Greece, to



Women demonstrate through central Tokyo August 20 protesting China's latest nuclear testing and France's plan of nuclear testing in the South Pacific. More than 7,000 women took part in the anti-nuclear and anti-war demonstrations and rallies in the Japanese capital and Yokohama today, a spokeswoman of the rally organiser said (Reuters

atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki. The Peace Boat group had

planned to hold its exhibition in Dakar Aug. 22 and 23 when it was scheduled to

dock in the West African state of Senegal. The Senegalese government denied a request to the exhibition, the

Ivana Trump sails into port with maybe husband-to-be

PORTOFINO, Italy (AP) — the exclusive resort of Portofino, famous for drawing a glittering role call of pleasure seekers, welcomed Saturday one of the glitziest of all — Ivana Trump. The ex-wife of the American multi-millionaire Donald Trump cruised into the port in northwest Italy on board a 27-metre yacht bearing her name. Also on deck was Italian businessman Riccardo Mazzuchelli, her apparent fiance. The couple had planned to marry in June, but the ceremony was put off and no new date has been publicly announced. Dressed casually — but impeccably — the pair strolled in Potofino's charming square before settling down to hunch in a harborside restaurant.

Bar manager joins Kennedy clan

DUBLIN, Ireland (AP) -A bar manager has joined the Kennedy clan. Kym Kennedy Smith, 22-yearold daughter of the U.S. Ambassador to Ireland, Jean Kennedy Smith, married Alfie Tucker on Saturday. The couple met last year at Lillie's Bordello, the Dublin nightclub Tucker manages. The bride's uncle, Sen. Edward Kennedy, walked her down the aisle at the University Church on St. Stephen's Green in central Dublin, William Kennedy Smith, brother of the bride, was groomsman, and her elder sister Amanda was a bridesmaid. The bride, who was born to Vietnamese parents, and her sister were adopted by Mrs. Smith and her late husband, Stephen E. Smith:

Indonesia to issue 198 million ID cards 🕮 🚧

JAKARTA (R) - Indonesia expects to be able to issue new, foolproof identity cards and citizenship numbers to its 190 million people in three to four years, the official ANTARA news agency reported on Saturday. The report quoted Home Affairs Minister Yogie Memet as saying the? existing cards issued at provincial levels would be replaced by a national citizen identity number (NIK) at an average cost of 3,000 rupiah (\$1.36) each. "A national ID card can neither

Sri lankan fathèr of 3 falls for mother-in-law

be copied nor falsified.

COLOMBO (R) - A Sri Lankan father of three has discarded his young wife for an older woman, his mother-in-law. The Sunday Times of Sri Lanka newspaper said the 32-year-old man had been advised by police to give up the affair with the 42-year-old woman and return to his wife at their home in Kunnegala, 80 kilomtres northeast of Colombo. "But he was in no mood to listen," the newspaper said under a headline "Supid Copid" a Police advised his 28-yearold wife to file for financial

Italy's 'bikini war' a publicity: stunt – mayor 🖫

DIANO MARINA, Italy (R) — Mayor Andrea Guglieri, who captured Italian and foreign headlines last week by declaring war on bodies not fit for bikinis. said it was a publicity stung. "Now all the world knows about Diano Marina," Mr. Guglieri said in a telephone interview. He described his "bikini war" idea — having police ask swimsuit wearers in the town streets to cover up protruding bellies and unsightly bulges — as 3 provocative gesture meant to provoke public reaction. the beauty of this Italian the iera resort, he explained is not just made up of avenues. sidewalks and buildings but also of the people on the

Taiwanese president denounces use of nuclear weapons

British opposition extends poll lead

TAIPEI (AFP) — Taiwanese President Lee Teng-Hui on Sunday reaffirmed his rejection of nuclear weapons shortly after calling for an Asia-Pacific security alliance to bolster stability.

Mr. Lee, who is under mounting pressure from China over his attempts to strengthen Taiwan's international image, said "no country in the world will dare use the (nuclear) weapon."

He told a farmers' union conference that countries which are making it are just afraid that others are making it too," the TVBS cable tele-

vision station reported. Therefore, we would be better off without it," he

LONDON (R) — Britain's opposition Labour Party

has extended its lead over

the ruling Conservatives

despite a recent spate of

internal bickering, an opin-

But left-wing criticism of reformist leader Tony Blair

showed no sign of letting

up on Sunday. One member

disillusioned leftwingers

could form a breakaway

party if Mr. Blair continued

The opinion poll, in the

Sunday Times newspaper,

showed 54 per cent of

Britons would back Labour

in a general election.

unchanged from the party's

standing in a similar poll in

But the Conservatives

suffered a two point drop in popularity to 25 per cent as

his overhaul of Labour.

parliament (MP) said

ion poli showed.

added in an apparent reference to a nuclear test last Thursday by China.

Last month, Mr. Lee triggered international concern with a comment to the national assembly that Taiwan might "restudy" its shelved nuclear weapon pro-

He later denied he meant reviving the programme. His comment had come in the midst of a series of Chinese missile tests of the Taiwan coast that caused panic in the nationalist island.

A second series of exercises started last week, also off the northern coast of Taiwan, has heightened security fears, with the Taiwan armed

the minority Liberal

Democrats enjoyed a three

The figures were grim

point boost to 17 per cent.

news for Prime Minister

John Major, who must call

a general election by May

The poll, from the nation-

al opinion polls organisa-

tion, is the first to appear

since a year-long honey-moon enjoyed by Mr. Blair

after election as leader

In the past month, he has

come under fire from MPs

and trade union leaders

who fear the party is jetti-

soning its traditional con-

cern for the poor in an

attempt to woo middle class

Writing in the News of

the World newspaper on

Sunday, left-wing Labour

MP Ken Livingstone

forces on top alert. Taiwan on Sunday invited

Japan to support Mr. Lee's call for an Asia-Pacific security alliance, the Taipeibased Broadcasting Corporation of China (BCC) reported .-For the common interest

of the two hations we need support from Japan. If the safety of the sea passages in the Taiwan and Bashi channels were hampered, not only we would suffer, but would also suffer too," Shaw Yu-Ming, the sponsor of the Asia Open Forum, was quoted as say-

ing.
The former government spokesman who now heads

a breakaway party being formed if Mr. Blair moved

"There could even be a

new left-wing party created out of the 38,000 Labour

supporters who have torn

up their party cards in

protest at Labour's drift to

the point where any further

shift to the right will lose us

Labour suffered a break-

away in the 1980s when, on

that occasion, a group of

prominent right-wingers

formed a new social demo-

cratic party. That enterprise,

in reaction to a drift to the

left, ultimately proved a

Another Labour MP, Alan

Simpson, told BBC radio

failure.

more support than it gains."

"Tony Blair has reached

Labour any further

the right," he said.

to the right.

warned of the possibility of Mr. Blair had surrounded

tional Relations, said Taiwan and Japan should work together to install a security system in the region in the face of China's military

He made the remarks during the closing ceremony of the two-day forum in the southern city of Kaohsiung. Some 130 scholars from Taiwan and Japan attended the

meeting.
On Saturday Mr. Lee appealed to Asia-Pacific nations to consider a regional security system. He said the main concern among the Taiwanese people was to maintain cross-strait stabili-

himself with bright young

people with shallow roots

"There is a danger that he

has a cohort of young peo-

ple around him whose main

sense of angst is more to do

with puberty than poverty,"

But Mr. Blair loyalist

David Blunkett, the party's

education spokesman, said

critics failed to understand

the need to adapt Labour

principles to modern condi-

"There is not a contradic-

tion between bringing the

party and the nation into the

21st century and remaining

true to those key principles

which brought us into the

Colombo said last week many

expatriate Tamils living in

North America. Europe and

Australia, contribute to the war

"They are not fighting, they

have good jobs, their children

are at good schools," he said.

They are paying conscience

Sri Lanka rejects

Red Cross terms

effort out of guilt.

Labour Party," he said.

in the party.

he said.

Democrats downplay retirements, defections, predict '96 victories

NEW ORLEANS (Agencies) - The chairman of the Democratic National Committee downplayed talk of an independent presidential run by Sen. Bill Bradley and predicted Saturday that the will maintain the White House and gain strength in Congress in 1996.

Mr. Bradley's "comment about a possible independent candidacy was not a major thrust of what he said," Chairman Don Fowler said as the committee held its summer meeting in New

Rep. Steny Hoyer of Maryland added: "Sen. Bradley made it very, very clear that he agrees with the Democratic Party's princi-

"I expect him to remain a Democrat. I also expect him, as he said, to continue his contributions to the public policy of this country," he said.

Mr. Bradley, a New Jersey Democrat who was disaffected with both major parties, announced Wednesday that he would retire from the Senate when his third term expires in January 1997. At a news conference the next day, he said he wouldn't rule out an independent presidential bid in 1996.

On Saturday, interviewed on former New York Governor Mario Cuomo's nationally syndicated radio show, Mr. Bradley resisted being pinned down on the issue. "you said you would con-

sider the possibility of nmning," Mr. Cuomo told Mr. Bradley in New York. "No," Mr. Bradley replied,

"as someone who has spent a long time with words, I said I wouldn't rule it out." The Democratic National

Committee meeting was held in a state where another long-time Democratic senator, J. Bennett Johnston. recently announced his retirement, and where Congressman Billy Tauzin recently defected to the Republicans amid wide-spread speculation that he will run for Johnston's seat.

Dole and Gramm tie in Iowa poll

In another development in Ames, Iowa, Senators Bob Dole and Phil Gramm tied for first in a straw poll of Republican voters on Saturday night in a straw poll for the Republican presidential nomination. Mr. Dole, the Senate

Majority Leader from Kansas and the front-runner for the party nomination, and Mr. Gramm, from Texas, both captured 2,582 votes, or roughly 24 per cent of the 10,598 votes cast.

Finishing a close third in the 10-man field was television commentator Pat Buchanan with 1,922 votes or 18 per cent. Former Tennessee Governor Lamar Alexander was fourth with 1,156 votes, or 11 per cent. A rancous crowd sporting T-shirts and waving placards for their candidates crowded Iowa State University's basketball arena for the straw poll, which takes place six months before the February 12 Iowa caucuses, the official start of the presidential

Capturing fifth place was inspirational speaker and radio talk show Alan Keyes with 8 per cent, one vote ahead of Michigan businessman Morry Taylor. Polling well behind were Indiana Senator Richard Lugar, Cal-

primary season.

son, California Representative Robert Dornan and Pennsylvania Senator Arlen Specter. It appeared few attendees

paid for their \$25 tickets to participate in the straw poll. The Jowa caucuses next year precede the traditional first-in-the-nation Hampshire primary by less than a week, establishing a benchmark for the spate of

state primaries to come. "New Hampshire is a betto be president than we are," Iowa's Republican governor Terry Branstad said of the New England State's prima-

"But if you finish in the top tier (in Iowa) you go on," Mr. Branstad said. "That's the role that we play." In the last contested

Republican primary battle in 1988, Mr. Dole won Iowa's caucuses, beating former vice president George Bush. Organisers estimated 13,500 tickets had been sold to what amounts to a fundraising event for the state Republican Party, with 10,000 people filling most of the arena's seats to listen to 15-minute speeches from each candidate.

The master of ceremonies. former vice-president Dan Quayle, ticked off the Republicans' wish list, topped by replacing President Bill Clinton in November, 1996. "Our mission is simple."

Mr. Quayle said. "We need to fill the vacancy in the White House. I'm talking about a vacancy in leadership, a vacancy in confidence, a vacancy in charac-

Sri Lanka police smash Tamil rebel financial cell finance the Tigers' war effort, blast in the fashionable Cinna-A Jaffna Tamil now living in

COLOMBO (R) — The chief of police in the Sri Lankan capital said on Sunday the financial hub of operations for militant Tamil Tiger separatists had

The funds manager for the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) had been detained, along with several others, on Friday and Saturday and a "couple of million rupees" (\$40.000) seized. Colombo police chief G.B. Kotakadeniya told Reuters.

He said the manager had been running an office in the heart of the city "with a cell phone and fax machine and things like that". The funds had been collected from Colombo businessmen and overseas donations to

"The financial cell of the LTTE has been bust open," Mr. Kotakadeniya said, adding that the investigation leading up to the arrests had lasted two

"The money comes from big business and from abroad and was sent to the north to fund the whole war effort," he said.

The police were still trailing more suspects, he said.

The police efforts coincided with their investigation into a bomb blast in the capital this month when a Tiger suicide bomber blew up his cart of coconuts, killing 24 people.

Several people have been arrested in connection with that

mon Gardens neighbourhood of colonial-style office embassy buildings. Kotakadeniya is also in charge of that investigation.

The police chief said more details of the arrests and possible charges would be released on Monday.

The Tigers are one of the world's most formidable and well equipped guertilla outfits, boasting a makeshift navy, an air wing, mobile radar, suicide squads and anti-aircraft missiles, all of which cost money.

Meanwhile, the Sri Lankan government Saturday rejected conditions set by the Interna-The Tigers control the Jaffna tional Committee of the Red peninsula in the north and levy their own taxes, but much of Cross (ICRC) to resume escorting food ships to rebel-held their financing comes from areas in northern Sri Lanka, the sympathisers living overseas.

state-run radio said.

The ICRC stand that it will escort cargo ships to Point Pedro in rebel-controlled area and not to the military port of Kanekesanthurai was not acceptable to the government, the radio said.

In the past, the vessels bound for rebel-controlled areas were first checked at the military port. Last month, the rebels objected to the practice and withdrew guarantees not to attack the food ships.

Food supplies have not reached Jaffna peninsula in the north since the military launched a major offensive early this month against Tamil separatists. The fighting lasted

Zaire said to expel Rwandan and Burundian refugees LONDON (R) - Zaire has by the United Nations to sus-

begun expelling Rwandan refugees who have been living in camps since they fled civil war at home last year, the British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC) reported on Sunday.

The report, monitored in London, said the United Nations refugee agency had appealed to the Zairean government to halt the expulsions.

It said 200 Rwandans had been expelled from camps around Goma. Some 50 or 60 Burundian refugees were sent back to Burundi from Uvira. More were expected to follow, the BBC said.

The move follows a decision

pend an arms embargo against Rwanda, which upset the Zaire authorities, the BBC report

A U.N. Security Council resolution suspended the embargo for a year on condition that weapons were only for government use and were imported only through specified points into Rwanda.

Spokesman Manuel Almera e Silva for the U.N. Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) told the BBC Zaire "randomly rounded up" 180 refugees on Saturday and sent them back to Rwanda.

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maintenance

three stages for of 35 Lifemeter Swelleh Eigh Yadoudeh ternational maintenance mended of the British Search Centre man: defection Surface of the Aswag, ## A NEW

Consumer Ping shows the the between logg risen by i vered the price tial products medicine and Prices were for increased by a per cent per viducts. To have nine products temained state The study prop out of every which declined were vegetable available in is diving the secutive the year Two

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minister of ene al resources and resources in the first houses in the minister seeking to use fuel at all power the kingdom maximise eco and maintain a ment. He added companies woing this nation Rail.

husbandanc.

PORTOFINO, Italy the exclusive to Portofino, famour is ing a glittering tot.
pleasure seekers, by Salurday one of the of all lyana The ex-wife of the multi-millionaire Trump cruised into in northwest lialy is a 27-metre yacht, her name. Also on de Italian businessman do Mazzuchelli, her ent fiance. The wa planned to many but the ceremony off and no new to been publicly at Dressed casnally

impeccably strolled charming square be ting down to land; porside restaurant

Bar manager Joins Kenner cian

DUBLIN, Ireland A bar manager h tine Kennedy the Kennedy Smith. old daughter of t Ambassador to Ireic Kennedy Smith Alfie Tucker on The couple merla-Lillie's Bordello, it nightelub Tucker E The bride's und Edward Kennedy her down the aix University Church Stephen's Green a Dublin, William I. Smith, brother of it was groomsman elder sister Amad. bridesmaid. The big was born to Vietnam adopted by Mrs. Se her late husband Se

Indonesia to issue 198 m iD cards

Smith.

JAKARTA (R)-lad cards and ciuzense bers to us 190 mle pie in three to force official ANTARa agency reported a day. The report Home Affairs Yogie Memet as S existing cards is provincial levels F. replaced by a mana zen identity numb at an average cont rupiah (51.36) & national ID cardes. be copied nor falsis.

Sri lankan fat mother-in- plunged into a river.

discarded his young. an older woman in er-in-law.
Times of Sri Landik gers in the two trains were sleeping when the per said the 114 man had been a police to give up & with the 12-year-old and return to his their home in kin 80 kilomtres north Colombo. But no mood to list. new spaper said E old wife to file for:

police ask swifts about tors to see reason and in the town street tourists."

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up promuting the four innocent in the town street tourists."

streets.

Jnava I^{LAWI} sails into pon with maybe

Last two factions sign Liberian peace accord

ABUJA (AFP) - Two Liberian militias which initially refused to sign a new peace accord to end the sixyear civil war finally put their names to it early Sunday, an official of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS)

ECOWAS Director of Information Adama Gaye - said the last two factions signed the deal around 2 a.m. (0100 GMT) at a hotel Lin Nigeria's federal capital Abuja.

Armed Forces of Liberia (AFL) press spokesman · Arthur Dennis confirmed in .a telephone interview that the faction had signed, as had the Krahn wing of the United Liberation Movement (ULIMO), led by Roosevelt Johnson.

However, Mr. Dennis said the AFL had only signed in return for guarantees from the mediating bodies that its

MAE SOT, Thailand (AP) -

Fierce battles near the Thai-

Burma border have erupted

again between Burmese gov-

ternment troops and rebels of

the ethnic minority Karennis, a

"addressed on the ground" once the peace accord is implemented.

Late Saturday the AFL threatened to return to Monrovia without signing an agreement unless it was given undertakings that it would not be disarmed along with the other six fac-

Mr. Johnson's faction initially refused to sign in a dispute over jobs, Mr. Dennis added, in particular the speakership of a new transitional legislative assembly, which it was demanding but was refused.

Announcing the accord at the ECOWAS secretariat building here late Saturday, Ghana's Foreign Minister Obed Asamoah said it represented the "end" of efforts by ECOWAS to resolve the conflict, which according to official estimates has left

over 150,000 dead. Warlords have signed and broken some 10 accords prior to the Abuja agree-

Under the Abuja accord as adopted, the AFL and the Krahn wing of ULIMO would have no seat on the new council of state, or collective presidency.

However, Mr. Bowen was guaranteed a "ministerial or other senior government" post and will remain AFL chief of staff during the transitional period, which should last "approximately" one year, according to the accord.

Two minor warlords, Francois Massaquoi of the Lofa Defence Force (LDF) and Tom Woewiyu of the Central Revolutionary Council (CRC) dissident wing of the NPFL were given the same assurance, as were two Woewiyu allies in the cur-

rent interim government, Lavali Supuwood and Burmese army and ethnic

anonymity. Thai border patrol police fired warning shots. ties or results of the fighting, near the border of Thailand's northern province of Mae Hong

minorities resume fighting

Thai officer said Sunday. Government troops seeking the Karenni headquarters fired constant barrages with 120 mm ents, and her sig artillery guns Friday, said the demanded

There was no word on casual-

of this key border town and about 650 kilometres north of Bangkok.

The provincial capital is north

eral ethnic minority rebel groups that due to difficulties and pressure signed truce pacts with the government in recent months. The Karennis say the government army violated the agreement in june by forcing civilians to work as military porters, seizing civilian trucks and horses, and preparing for an

MOSCOW (AFP) - Sepa-

ratist Chechen President Dzhokhar Dudavev backs current efforts at establishing peace in Chechnya, his spokesman was quoted as saying Sunday.

Mr. Dudayev met for three hours Saturday with his nulitary commander Asian Maskhadov, who is one of the chief negotiators in talks with the Russians, the ITAR-TASS news agency quoted Movladi Udugov as

Mr. Udugov said Mr. Dudayev reaffirmed his support for the peace accord signed July 30, which exchanges disarmament of Chechen independence fighters for a withdrawal of most Russian troops from ITAR-TASS Chechnya,

reported. However, Mr. Dudayev and Mr Maskhadov both said that "implementation of the agreement on withdrawal of troops is stalled on the Russian side," Mr. Udugov

Mr. Dudayev opposes some provisions in the accord, Mr. Udugov said,

without giving details.

But Mr. Udugov denied Russian reports of a split between Mr. Maskhadov, who masterminded the seven-month war against the vastly greater Russian forces, and Mr. Dudayev.

"They are on common ground over the main issue of resolving the conflict in a peaceful way," Mr. Udugov

Meanwhile, one of the most feared Chechen guerrilla leaders warned that he was prepared to carry out attacks in several Russian cities, Interfax news agency

Shamil Basayev, who led a raid and mass hostage-taking on the southern Russian city of Budennovsk in June, said that attacks would be carried out if Russian forces continued to use force in Chechnya, Interfax said.

In a statement addressed to the Russian people, Mr. Basayev said Russian forces were "flagrantly violating" the peace process.

"I appeal to the peoples of Russia to stop their rulers. If federal troops continue to use force on the territory of the Chechen republic Ichkeria, retaliatory measures will immediately be taken," the statement said.

Mr. Basayev said that civilians would suffer most from such attacks. "The Russian government has provided safety for itself,"

More than 100 people died in the fighting in Budennovsk and subsequent hostage crisis. Many of the victims were killed by Russian gunfire during attempts to storm the hospital where Mr. Basayev was holding his captives.

Moscow agreed to start the current peace process and ceasefire as conditions for Mr. Basayev releasing his hostages.

Chechen rebel authorities have agreed to help Russian forces capture Mr. Basave/ for his role in the Budennovsk crisis.

However, there appeared to be little chance that the separatists would turn over Mr. Basayev, who is seen as a hero by many Chechens.



A Chechen fighter adds his Kalashnikov assault rifle to weapons and ammunition handed in by Chechens in the village of Zandak near the Chechen-Dagestan border (Reuters

The Karennis are among sevofficer. offensive against the Karennis. Train collision leaves 250 dead, 400 injured in India

NEW DELHI, India (AP) - officials. At least 250 people were, ... The three rear cars of the killed and another 400 Kalindi express and the injured Sunday when an expects to be the express train crashed into stopped suddenly after hitting a cow, a news agency

reported. The accident occurred outside Firozabad railway station when a signalman cleared the Puroshottam express on to a track without realizing that the Kalindi express had stopped midway to the next station after clearing the signal post, Press Trust of India said quoting unnamed railroad

Sunday's appeared to be the worst in recent times. In 1989, 107 people were killed in southof 3 falls for ern India when a train

Both trains involved in COLOMBO (R) - Sunday's accident were bound for New Delhi, 300 kilometree

abad in Uttar Pradesh state. Most of the 2,200 passen-

occurred, United News of

India said quoting railroad

engine and two cars of the Puroshonam express crum-Press Trust said.

The accident site was littered with mauled bodies, severed limbs, and chunks of human flesh, said Manas Patnaik, 29, who was travelling from the eastern state of Orissa to New Delhi on the Puroshottam express.

"I stumbled several times on severed limbs and some people - I don't know whether they were sleeping or dead," Mr. Patnaik told United News in an interview.

He said he had survived the accident because he was in a rear car of the train. "The entire area was rever-

berating with cries and shrieks," Mr. Patnaik said. More than 15 hours after the collision, rescuers were still discovering bodies in the mangled debris of the cars and the death toll could rise further, agencies said.

Rescuers of India's state-

owned railroad company

were using cranes to lift the

smashed cars that had telescoped into each other. A admitted to hospitals in Firozabad and in the nearby towns of Tundla and Agra. At least 14 trains were

held up or were being diverted along other tracks, it said.

In New Delhi, Prime Minister P,V. Narasimha Rao, who is temporarily in charge of railroads, expressed sorrow over the deaths and directed a senior government minister to supervise the rescue operations.

More than 200 people

have been killed this year in six separate railroad accidents in India, where trains are the most common popular form of transportation. Every day, hundreds of thousands of people crowd the 7,000 trains that crisscross the country.



Rescuers search for bodies among the wreckage of the passenger trains after collision in north Indian Firozobad town of Uttar Pradesh state on August 20 (Reuters photo)

India tells kidnappers no military action planned

headline Supul SRINAGAR, India (AFP)
Police advised his — Indian authorities S.... told a Muslim separatist group holding four Western Italy's bikin being planting was War' a public being planned to rescue the hostages. an official war a public hostages, an official said stunt mal here.

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in the town sale tourists."

The Telegraph daily said up promuding on Sunday that the Kashunsighdy bulks on Sunday that the Kashunsighdy bulks on Sunday that the Kashunsighdy on the exact hideout used to provoke public in on the exact hideout used to provoke public in on the exact hideout used to provoke public in on the exact hideout used to provoke public in on the exact hideout used to provoke public in on the Exact hideout used to provoke public in on the Exact hideout used to provoke public in on the United States, not just made up of from the United States, not just made up of from the United States, sidewalks and he per camping in Srinagar.

But authorities here said streets."

five British and three U.S. anti-terrorist experts who arrived in Kashmir would only assist and advise the

Indian government. The Al Faran, which has already killed a fifth hostage, Norwegian Hans-Christian Ostro, had on Friday threatened to kill the four Western tourists if Indian commandoes launched a

rescue operation. The group seized an American and two Britons from Kashmir's Pahalgam district July 4 and a German and a Norwegian separately four days later.

Mr. Ostro was killed last weekend and his beheaded torso dumped near a remote village with the words Al Faran carved on his chest.

An Al Faran statement issued here Friday said the government's refusal to release 15 Muslim militants from jail was to blame for the death of Mr. Ostro.

"Internal or international condemnation will not make us back down from our demands.

"If the government wants

hostages alive, it should immediately release the 15 militants on our list," said the group which is believed comprise mainly of

Afghan mercenaries. There is no other way to secure the release of these foreigners, and once a military offensive begins the hostages will be killed," it

In an unrelated development, unidentified Muslim militants kidnapped seven passengers from a bus travelling to Srinagar from the Kashmir winter capital Jammu overnight Sunday, the Press Trust of India said.

The rebels killed one of the captives near the town of Pampore, an official said, adding that another had managed to escape. No militant group has claimed responsibility for the abduc-

More than 12,000 people have died in Kashmir since 1989 when Muslim militants stepped up their separatist campaign against Indian

Five killed, hundreds detained in Karachi

KARACHI (AFP) — Five people were killed in violence-plagued Karachi Sunday while security forces detained hundreds in the city's western district as part of a new anti-militant drive, officials and residents said. Officials said police killed two "terrorists" in the westem Orangi district while

snipers shot dead three people elsewhere in the city. Earlier police and paramilitary rangers cordoned-off western Karachi's Pak Colony neighbourhood and launched a house-to-house search for arms and mili-

tants, residents said. The neighbourhood has a mainly poor population of around 400,000. Residents said police

whisked away hundreds of people, mostly youths. Some were blindfolded and bundled into waiting police vehicles, they said.

Police confirmed some people had been detained for questioning but refused to give a figure. "We have already released

some and we will release

more people after screening," a rangers official said. He said the security forces arrested "some hardcore

militants" and recovered automatic weapons during the operation. Police claimed the militants belonged to Karachi's main opposition party, the Mohajir Qaumi Movement (MQM) which represents

Urdu-speaking migrants

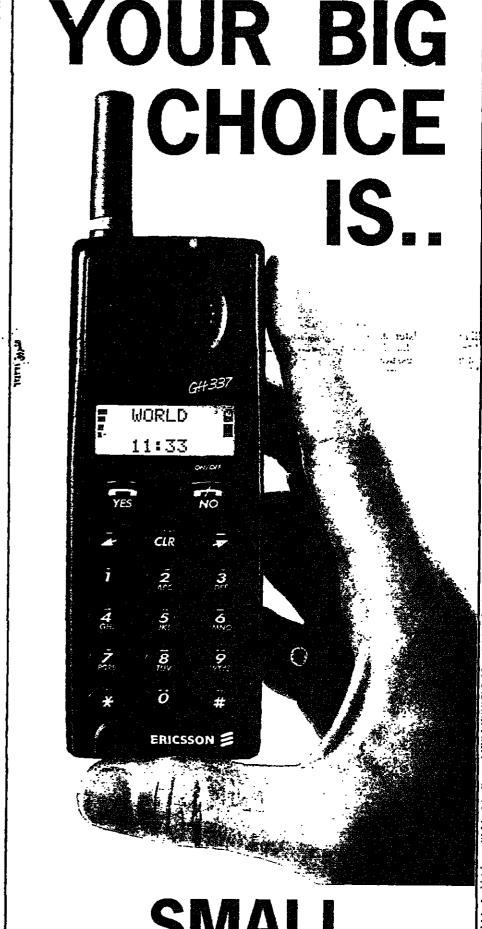
from India who arrived after

the partition of the subcontinent in 1947. Sunday's action was the latest in a series of operations carried out in several districts of the port city over the past two months after Prime Minister Benazir

Bhutto vowed to purge

Karachi of "terrorists." The security forces said they had arrested some 500 militants and more than 80 terrorists" had been killed so

More than 1,200 people have been killed in the country's commercial capital in political and ethnic violence since January this year.



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Unshakeable stand

IRAQ'S ASSURANCES on Saturday that it wants to maintain and develop its "fraternal relations" with Jordan came as yet another evidence that economic and trade relations between the two countries will not suffer in the wake of the defection to the Kingdom of a number of high-ranking officials on Aug. 8. These assurances, which coincided with Jordan's assertion that it will not jeopardise its vital trade relations with Iraq, reflect the two countries' understanding of the common economic interests that bind them.

As Jordan depends on Iraq for its oil supplies and the marketing of about 20 per cent of its exports, Baghdad fully understands that the Kingdom is its only outlet to the outside world. The interdependence of the two states is simply too strong to allow for any arbitrary severing of ties between them.

But economic considerations are not the only reason why Amman and Baghdad are unlikely to replace cooperation with enmity. Strategic, political and humanitarian factors argue against such a turn of the tides.

Jordan's public opinion has shown its opposi-tion to any deterioration of relations with Iraq. And the Kingdom's record during the Gulf war speaks volumes for this country's ability to stand firm against any sort of pressure that targets a shift from the principles that guide its foreign policy, especially towards Arab countries.

Jordan has suffered a great deal from attempts to meddle in its internal affairs. But it never compromised on its principle of non-interference in the domestic affairs of other countries.

When it comes to Iraq, His Majesty King Hussein has said "our position is frank and clear" in its firm stand and in its support for the Iraqi people and for the territorial integrity and sovereignty of Iraq.

Jordan believes that the road to a better future for the Iraqis, Jordanians and all Arabs passes through the institutionalisation of a democratic political system that upholds human rights and the freedoms of the governed. But it equally believes that each people have the right to choose what kind of life they want to lead. All that Jordan can do is offer help to those who seek it. So far, Jordan has done what it could to alleviate the suffering of the Iraqi people, often at a high price to ourselves. Those who suggest that our future policies could be different are either simply ignorant of the guiding principles of this country, or choose to do so out of motivations that are concerned with neither Jordan's or

ARABIC PRESS COMMENTARIES

IT WAS only out of diplomatic courtesy that the Jordanian government declared Saturday that Jordan is under no pressure from any party, but everyone knows for sure that Jordan has been exposed to pressure for years, said Tareq Masarweh, a writer in Al Ra'i Sunday. The writer said that Jordan can by no means stop its trade with Iraq, adding that those demanding that it must, should first study the U.N. Charter, which provides for compensation to a country whose economy is harmed as a result of the sanctions. Referring to other countries around Iraq, the writer said Turkey maintains open borders and open trade with Iraq, while Iran continues to barter Iraqi oil with various goods. What the Americans want is to force Jordan, the only Arab country with open borders with Iraq, to sever all links with the Iraqi people and wants to see Arabs humiliating Arabs and so keep the Arab Nation in total disarray and fragmentation. The writer said that Jordan realises the magnitude of the disaster that had befallen the region and the plight of the Iraqi people and it strives to alleviate their sufferings. He said Jordanians cannot sell out their Arab identity for any price.

A WRITER in Al Ra'i daily said that the number of statements issued by officials concerning the guest workers and unemployment over the past years is equal to the number of non-Jordanians working in the Kingdom. Ahmad Al Misleh said that mere statements solve no problem, especially the problem of unemployment and the question of the presence of tens of thousands of non-Jordanians working illegally in the country. Blaming the Ministry of Labour for the disorganisation of the local labour market, the writer said that the ministry is succumbing to the influence and the wishes of the employers and failing in its duty to stem the presence of the non-Jordanian workers, who are doing jobs that can be taken by Jordanians. The writer said that the Labour Ministry, which issues work permits, employers, who prefer non-Jordanian low-wage earners over local workers, are responsible for the confusion which has been causing real. harm to the nation's interests. The writer called on the Labour Ministry to conduct a survey of the labour market and familiarise itself with its real needs. Based on the result of the survey, he said, the ministry can introduce training courses to qualify local workers for the jobs available in the local labour market.

Human Rights File

A battle worth fighting

THREE CHEERS to President Bill Clinton for taking on the tobacco industry and pledging to put additional curbs on the sale of cigarettes to young people. President Clinton seized upon the finding of the Federal Food and Drug Agency (FDA) that nicotine is an addictive drug to begin his crusade against smoking. I see this giant leap forward as only the beachhead that anti-smokers have always wanted to establish to stage their ultimate attack on smoking as an epidemic that costs lives just as any other disease. The logic of this new American campaign is obvious: Since smoking cigarettes causes cancer, heart diseases and respiratory ailments, as all medical findings have substantiated over and over again, it should be treated as other harmful drugs or substances that cause illnesses and death. The fact that the cigarette drug is pleasurable to so many of us should not distinguish it from other health factors whose toll on lives and health of people have been medically and scientifically established. And since secondary smoking is just as harmful to non-smokers, especially children, as primary smoking to smokers, there are legal basis to protect the public from the dangers of smoking by increasing the restrictions on the manufacture and sale of tobacco

There is no doubt in my mind that the additional American steps against the tobacco industry will set the tone for the rest of the international community sooner than later. The U.S. has been setting standards on health for many generations and Western Europe will follow suit as they have always done in the past. The stage is therefore set for combating smoking globally as the arguments for free choice loses credibility each day against the increasing evidence about the harmful effects of smoking. Governments would increasingly feel constrained to step in to protect the unsuspecting public from health hazards that not only costs lives but also has a phenomenal price tag on the economic level. This also means that we in Jordan will have to take judicial notice of what the Americans have set

into motion against cigarettes and start doing something ourselves to protect our people from the obvious hazards of direct and secondary smoking. Above all, President Clinton's crusade against making cigarettes available to minors should spur us to bridge the alarming gap between our rhetoric against smoking in public places and the reality on the Jordanian scene.

There are some shocking revelations about the real stance of Jordan on cigarettes that would make a mockery of our pious protestations against smoking in general and our lip adherence to the proposition that smoking is truly hazardous to people's health. The bottom line, as far as Jordan is concerned, is its real position on the cultivation of tobacco in some of our most prime farm lands. It is a well-known fact that some 29,000 dunums from some of our most fertile agricultural lands are licensed by the Ministry of Finance for growing tobacco. It is also a well-known fact that the government pays tobacco growers two thirds of the price of their tobacco products, which is sold to the tobacco companies. The tobacco companies pay only one third of the price. The state decision to seemingly subsidise the growing of tobacco is not, though, without economic merits. What the government pays by one hand recollects many times over by the other hand as revenues and levies on cigarettes. It is estimated that the coffers of the government collect some JD 100 million from levies on cigarette packages in return for less than one tenth of the amount that it pays directly to tobacco growers. Farmers, who raise tobacco on their farm lands, receive a meagre percentage of the selling value of the end product. Meanwhile, farm lands devoted for tobacco growing is rendered useless for other agricultural cultivations for many years after the growing of tobacco because tobacco is so taxing on land it leaves it with little remaining capacity for other agricultural use.

To control and administer the "official" and "private" businesses in the tobacco industry, we have in place a law

on tobacco that dates back to 1926. This legislation was amended twice since that time but the last time it was reviewed was in 1960 well before we also joined the bandwagon against cigarette smoking. We also have a fund to encourage the cultivation of tobacco which also dates back before the shocking disclosures about the dangers of smoking. The basis of this fund also appear inconsistent not only with the international trends but also the recommendations and decisions of the government, including the Ministry of Health. The licensing of some 70 percents. Ministry of Health. The licensing of some 70 new coffee shops in recent times in Amman itself where young people smoke the "agrila" as a symbol of the latest craze in smoking style is a vivid example of the existing inconsistencies in our national policy on smoking. The smoking of "hubble bubble" is well-known to be much worse than cigarette smoking as each head of tobacco equals 10 cigarettes and when the argila tobacco is "sweetened," as it is now fashionable to do, the damage to health doubles.

In appears to me that we need to review our laws and practices on the use of tobacco so that they may become more uniform in purpose. Above all, we need to be more faithful to our protestations against smoking by putting our various acts on the subject together in a coherent and rational manner. It so happens that the right to life supersedes all other rights since without life no man or women or child can enjoy other pursuits of happiness. Cigarette manufacturers and smokers would, of course, defend the right of people to exercise free choice in this context by deciding for themselves what is good and what is not for their own health. Maybe we all can buy the argument that people have a right to "kill" themselves by drinking or smoking or whatever. What we must not accept is the right of such people to destroy the health of others, especially children within their households and nonsmokers in public places. Children and non-smokers need protection and that is why we must take bolder steps to safeguard them from the reckless lifestyles of others.



Iran's Afghans going home, at last

By Liesl Graz

WITHIN THE next few months, the last of the Afghan refugees who have been in Iran for over 15 years should have returned home. At least that is what the Iranian government and quite a lot of the Iranian people - hope. With the start of the school holidays, the trickle going back is turning into a steady stream. At the main crossing point at Dogharun on the road from Mashhad to Herat, the head-count had shot up from 400 per day to over 1,500 by the end of June. By now, only about 550,000 remain of the more than 3 million Afghans that Iran took in after the Soviet invasion. Half a million or so Iraqis who fled — or were expelled from --southern Iraq are still there; most of the Iraqi Kurds have returned to the fragile autonomy back home. The Afghans are not ex-

actly being expelled — at least not most of them but they are being firmly encouraged to go. The rules were spelled out in a tripartite agreement signed between the United Nations High Commissioner for Re-fugees (UNHCR), the Iranian government and the government of Afghanistan, such as it is. the UNHCR, which was never, in fact, really responsible for the refugees in Iran, has accepted the task of "facilitating" their return. That means it will see that the firmness doesn't get out of hand (and talking firmly to the authorities at the upper echelons when it does). coordinating transport with the International Organisation for Migration, which is actually supplying the lorries and buses to get people back. UNHCR distributes a small "exit package" (\$25 and 50 kg of wheat per person, plus one large plastic sheet, to serve as a temporary shelter if necessary. per family), as each group

goes across. In fact many of the Afghans living in Mashhad and its surroundings need no help, Lorry-owners are making small fortunes hir-

ing out vehicles to families returning home with the household goods acquired after long years of residence in Golshar — one of Mashhad's Afghan neighbourhoods — or elsewhere. Theoretically they are not supposed to be taking with them such highly negotiable items as guns or barrels of heavily subsidised petrol, but the border guards are usually too busy looking at papers to have time poking into the nether regions of the trucks. Iran was remarkable in

its generosity to the refugees from Afghanistan. In contrast to Pakistan, which cleverly parlayed its help into hundreds of millions of dollars of international funds, Iran, considered an international pariah, got no aid and almost no recognition for its pains. Nor, in those difficult early years of the Islamic Republic, did it seek any. Iranian officials concerned have figured that each refugee has cost the country on average \$4 per day; multiplied by 365 days, for 15 years and an average of about 2.5 to 3 million people, the figure becomes astronomical.

Taking in neighbours

Taking in neighbours caught.in an invasion by a godless regime was considered a normal way to show Islamic charity. In contrast, again, to Pakistan, the Afghans were not concentrated into camps, but free to settle where they wanted, get the jobs they could, live as they would. There was never, either, the same degree of military or even diplomatic activity; many of the Afghans are Shiites but by no means all. To be fair, the arrival of the Afghans was useful just when so many Iranian men were mobilised to fight. Afghans had been coming across the border ever since such a thing existed to work in the pistachio plantations and on construction sites; what was new was that now they came with women and children and all their chat-

With the fall of the Najibullah government after the depature of the Soviet troops in 1991, all that changed. From an Iranian point of view, the justification for sheltering the refugees was gone. If the Afghans wanted to fight it out among their warlords and militias, each claiming to be more Islamic then their rivals, that was their problem, and no longer that of the Iranians. The Islamic principle of dispensing charity where it is needed is more important in Tehran than the formal conventions of international law.

There was also an econo-

mic component. In early

1991, about 1.6 million

Afghan refugees remained in Iran and over the next months the perception changed from that of neighbours in need to that of foreign parasites eating subsidised bread, using subsidised petrol, taking up free places in schools and hospitals. As in other places of the world, the population began to see the refugees as taking work from the locals, although (again as elsewhere) they were mostly filling jobs that the Iranians no longer wanted to do, or at least not at the salary on offer, accepting an average of 7,000 riyals per day (\$2.30 in June), while employers would have to pay Iranians at least 10,000 riyals for the same work. The Afghans also became scapegoat, accused of every crime and misdemeanour, especially in Khorasan, the rich border province of which Mashhad is the capital. The governor of Khorasan, Ismael Mofidi, has declared that his province should become "refugee free:" Tehran is more than 1,000 km to the west and Mofidi wields a remarkable amount of independent

The Taliban conundrum

The UNHCR and the Afghan government were able to persuade the Iranians to extend permits long enough to let people get back without overwhelming the fragile infras-

Afghanistan from which they came. Just how fragile that is can be seen in Herat, the closest city to Mashhad. where a strong local governor. Ismael Khan, has managed to impose peace for the last two years, a peace threatened last autumn when large waves of returning refugees arrived in one fell swoop. The U.N. (which has not been as active in Afghanistan as it might have been) has used the region of Herat as a proving-ground for the idea of small-scale projects, cisterns for rainwater collection and the like, which could show results immediately, but there are not very many actually functioning. Then early this year, the Taliban, those highly organised bands of "Islamic students" sweeping up from Pakistan, burst onto the scene and directly threatened Herat. The Ira-

dered their campaign with

some benevolence, later

changed their tune. They

declared the Taliban a

menace to their own nation-

al security, made common

cause with the governor of

Herat and agreed to reg-

ulate the flow of returning

refugees so as not to over-

tructure in those parts of

whelm his province. One immediate result was that the permits of many Afghans were ex-tended until after the end of school year. Others are trying to get exemptions on the grounds of having to finish court cases - particularly between tenants and landlords - or medical treatment. But now, when an Afghan is caught having overstayed his permit by even one day, he may be thrown into one of the less pleasant detention camps that have been set up outside Mashhad. Only for a short-time, of course. The purpose of the detention, it would seem, is to deter others. The Iranians also hope that it will be strong enough to keep too many Afghans from sneaking back across the wide-open

border for a second try. Middle East International

LETTERS

Telephones should not be abused

To the Editor:

IN AN ARTICLE written in the Al Ra'i Arabic daily recently, Tareq Masarweh addressed the inefficiency of using the telephone, thus causing unnecessary frustration and needless squandering of resources resulting in work without pecuniary rewards. Only through practice of the proper use of the phone, he said, can a citizen reach sound decisions in the crises he has to face on a daily basis.

In the absence of speed to impart urgent information, businesses cease to function. The omnipresence of telephones indicate that most people fail to pay attention to their proper use. Certain rules should be observed by all users of the telephone, and overall efficiency should be the guiding principle.

The telephone is the most direct link. Its accurate and correct use conveys an impression of fively efficiency, self-confidence and pleasant manner. Every telephone call is an opportunity to enhance your company's reputation. A pleasant and smiling voice has a peculiar fascination.

Planning a telephone call not only saves time and money, but it also relieves the caller and the dialed person from embarrassment. If the message delivered is not expressed in straightforward language and in historical sequence, the result is usually confusing. Planning the time of the call will present unpardonable intrusion upon the dialed person's

privacy. Under no circumstances keep callers holding the line or hanging on until a file is located. If it takes time to exchange an item of information, call back when the

information is available. If speed and promptness represent acme of perfection, the fax service can transfer instantaneous written and graphic messages as quickly as voice signals. Only matters which can be transmitted relatively quickly should be dealt with on the telephone.

The telephone network revolutionised communications in the business world in particular. Every effort should be exerted to cease and desist time consuming and wasting, chat or gossip on the phone. Attach no importance to what seems trivial events.

George N. Saig,

'Editing versus censorship'

To The Editor:

I AM writing to you well aware that this letter is not going to be published. I certainly read with great delight my letter to you: U.N. role questioned, published on August 6.

I admit that I had great respect and regard for the Jordan Times. But I certainly did not expect my letter to be censored in such a manner. The U.N. and its agencies are international in nature, and lack of commending its role is a criticism to the whole international community and not to one person or

Censoring my letter does not change facts, but, as a student of politics, it gave me an idea of the concept of "editing" in the democratic age Jordan is witnessing. My letter to you, as published, read completely different, the basic meaning regarding the issue of breastfeading has been completely distorted. I do not think that whoever censored it misunderstood the humour in it, and thus twisted it.

I sincerely see no reason why the Jordan Times should take up the banner of banning any factual comments that our Jordanian females in the villages and in the camps are voicing out regarding the effectiveness of U.N. agencies. The U.N. itself is passing a phase of self-criticism in order to vitalise its

> Lamia Nasser, Amman.

EDITOR'S NOTE: The Jordan Times edits letters to the editor for clarity and language purposes. It is not this newspaper's intention or policy to censor news or views, as we firmly believe in the freedom of the press and thought.

The Jordan Times welcomes letters and contributions from its readers on any subject they wish to tackle. Letters intended for publication, however, should contain the writer's full name and preferably address as well. Names can be withheld only upon request and under special circumstances. Letters are subject to editing. The newspaper is not responsible for the return of unused manuscripts.

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Back to Chongqing: A mother's memories of World War II in China

A Beijing-based correspondent for The Associated Press travelled with

her mother this summer to Chongqing, also known as Chungking, in southwest-

ern China. It was her mother's first visit in a half-century to the city

By Charlene L. Fu The Associated Press

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ERS

OF ALL the changes that have occurred in this forsures about the danger, diso appear inconsistent and the took government, including the good of some 70 lies on the took of th mer war capital of China, my mother most mourns the lotus pond and willow trees of her primary school.

Today, the schoolyard is barren and colourless: A field of yellow earth ringed. by a few scrubbed trees, a swing set at one end and a basketball hoop at the

Mom was 10 years old when World War II ended in 1945 and had spent almost six years in Chongging, a large city on the Yangtze River in southwest China's Sichuan province. Displaced by war, she

ived in many cities before the family fled the communist takeover in 1949. But Chongqing was her home for the longest. My sister and I grew up

listening to mom's stories of her childhood during what the Chinese call the antiapanese war. While my friends were

hearing stories about their parents growing up on family farms or having teen-age crushes on Elvis, my mother was telling us about days spent hiding in air-raid shelters or fleeing on roads packed with war refugees. She was 3 when the family fled to Chongqing from the eastern coastal city of Nanjing, where my grand-father was a university lec-

The ruling nationalist government, badly beaten by invading Japanese, had retreated from its capital in Nanjing to this inland city. Many universities also

moved. Chongqing is surrounded by mountains on all sides, and the main river access is through the Yangtze river's

treacherous three gorges. The mountains and rivers were natural defences against invading Japanese troops. But the city was vulnerable from the air. My mother's earliest memory is

desk," she remembers. There were wartime privations. The first day of school, there were no desks. Students brought chairs from home to use as

Despite the war, my mother remembers a fairly normal family life. The children attended classes and holidays were celebrated.

One of her fondest memories was after-dinner storytelling. My grand-mother, one of the few Chinese women of her time to be educated in things Western, transported her children to Shakespearean England with tales based on the classic plays.

But dinner was often interrupted by air-raid sirens. Everyone would grab a handful of rice to knead into rice balls and eat later in the bomb shelters, damp caves carved out of the

"It was dark," she says. The children would be too afraid to make a sound. We would hear the adults talk about incidents like the one at Lianglukou." There thousands died when bombs caused an avalanche that blocked up the entrance of a huge air-raid shel-

"That would just increase our anxiety," my mother says. "We grew up with no sense of security."

In 1942, my grandfather moved the family to the neighbouring province of Hunan, 660 kilometres to the southeast, where he became manager of a cigarette factory. With the move, life of a Japanese bombing one, 100k a turn for the worse. day when her parents were There were air raids, and

away. and no mountain caves to hide "I was so frightened I in.

the middle of the night and run out and hide under a bridge, or in the gullies between the fields," mother remembers. "Or just he down flat in the middle of

the field. Hunan was in the path of the Japanese army's 1944 summer offensive. With rumours of approaching troops, the family decided to flee.

Their first stop was Guilin, now a major tourist draw with its picturesque mountains. The only place to live was in a barn near the Li River. But the children, who had no school to attend, delighted in playing in the river and catching tadpoles.

When Japanese troops neared Guilin, the family was among the lucky ones who got seats on an over-crowded train. The lessfortunate sat on the roofs of the cars or tied wooden planks underneath and lay there.

"You never knew when the train would start or stop there was never a signal," my mother recounts. "If you were on top and fell asleep, you'd fall off when the train started. Sometimes if the train was going too fast, the rope holding your plank might break and

vou'd die. "At the places the train stopped, there might not be any food. One time, my mother and I went into the field looking for potatoes or anything to eat. Suddenly the train started up fortunately, it wasn't going too fast and we were able to

scramble on." There were other close calls. Japanese planes bombed the train engine

dreds. But the compartment my mother and her family were in was un-

that was her family home during China's tumultuous war years.

When they broke their journey to stay overnight in a guest house, wanting to wash up and get a decent meal, Japanese bombers came again. The family fled outdoors and watched the building go up in flames.

When my grandfather fell ill with typhoid, the family had to stop running. They were out of money and had only a bag of high-quality tobacco from the cigarette

The six of them lived in a single room and cooked in a tin washbasin. My mother contracted malaria and my grandmother somehow managed to find quinine pills. My grandfather lost so much weight that he scarcely looked human.

The children were sent into the streets to peddle the family's books and clothes. They were too young to understand just how desperate their situa-

"We thought it was pretty fun," my mother recalls. And still the Japanese advanced. Rumours spread that even the rats were

Waiting for my grand-father to recover, the family was among the last to leave.

the only place to go was back to Chongqing. There was no rail or boat transport through the mountains. So my grandmother, a proud woman, got down on her hands andknees and begged for per-mission for her family to

nde atop army transport trucks. Luckily, she and the local commanding officer, a

General Tu were both from the same close-knit group of northern Chinese who had migrated south. He

took pity on her.
The family was allowed to bring only two bedrolls, but the trucks were piled high with goods belonging to the army families, including their commodes.

My still-weak grandfather sat next to the driver, but the rest of the family rode atop the piles, clinging to the ropes.

A sea of refugees filled the roads, some on foot, others riding animals, all

The army trucks were fueled by charcoal and stalled frequently. The soldiers wanted to separate the family, putting my mother's older brother and sister on another truck, but my grandmother refused. That truck later caught fire and

exploded. As the caravan climbed into the mountains, the weather got colder. Snows forced them to stop in the provincial capital where the family stayed in a storage

When the trucks set out again, they had chains on their tires. But they were forced to stop again for several weeks to wait for the ice to melt. The only place the family could find

to stay was next to a pigsty. The most grueling part of the trip was "72-Turn Road," so-named for its hairpin turns down the mountains. At one sharp turn, my mother's younger sister started to fall out of the truck, but somehow my grandmother caught her

and dragged her back in. When the family made it

back to Chongqing in early

1945, my mother recalls. the first thing we did was boil all our clothes." Everyone was flea-infested.

The war was in its last month, and shortages were acute. The children had no shoes. Their clothes were so old and bleached by repeated washings that they were white.

Breakfast was thin rice gruel; lunch, a bowl of rice ill of sand and pebbles. There was no electricity, and the family used oil lamps. Homework had to be done before the sun went down. Then, sudden-

ly, it was all over. "It was dusk, after dinner. I don't remember exactly how we heard, but everyone knew," mother says. "My sister and I and our cousin danced all night long, we were so happy. The entire city of Chong-

qing just went crazy."
My grandmother bought leftover U.S. army sup-plies, including American jam, and the children had the novelty of eating toast and jam for breakfast.

My grandfather left almost immediately for a job with a Shanghai trading company. But it was six months before the rest of the family was able to secure passage on a steamer down the Yangtze river to

Shanghai. The family later went to Hong Kong, then to In-donesia, where my mother attended high school, and later to Taiwan, where my mother attended college. She and my father settled permanently in the United States in 1969, living most of the time in Rochester,

New York. On our recent return visit arrived in Chongqing with no addresses, no one to look up. The night we flew in, all my mother could remember was that from the front door of the family home halfway up a mountain slope, she could see the juncture of the Yangtze and

either side of central Chongqing.

But the next morning, looking at a map, she began to recognise place names and was able to pick out the district where she used to

Jialing rivers that run along

Her main goal was to find her primary school, which she remembered as being at the top of the mountain,

above her home. "It is the only place that carries good memories. Everywhere else, we were fleeing the war and the bombings," she said.

We hired a hotel car for the day and set off. As we got closer, she started to softly chant the place names: "Tu Mountain. I remember Tu mountain. Longmenhao. I remember

Longmenhao.' The driver had never come this way before. After much discussion, backtracking and circling, we headed down a steep narrow road so crowded with peasants selling vegetables that the car could barely

squeeze past. The road ended abruptly just above the riverbank and mom recognised her first sight: The dock from which the family used to board ferries for the city

"What happened to all play in?" she wondered as we got out of the car.

right place when we start climbing the worn stone steps that lead to the mountaintop. Turning around to look back, we could see the two rivers: The brown mud-

dy Yangtze mixing with the green, clearer Jialing.

In the hot sun and Chongqing's near-100 per cent humidity, my sister and I soon tired of the steep climb. But my mother, more energetic than she'd been in days, set a brisk

She spotted an old, white-haired woman, and to my amazement spoke to her in the local dialect. asking if there was a school nearby. I never knew she could speak Sichuanese.

The old woman gave us directions, and we continued our climb. Cresting the peak, we entered a schoolyard. My mother took a swift look around and sighed heavily. In a voice laden with disappointment, she said softly, "it's

all changed." She waved a hand toward the slope and said, "none of these buildings were here then. The mountains used to be so much prettier."

A young schoolteacher took us to a colleague's home where several older teachers and the headmistress were having lunch. They confirmed that the school was the one that my

mother attended. They told mom that the willow trees were cut down in the 1950s and used as fuel during a misguided nationwide campaign to build backyard furnaces to pro-

duce steel. In the 1970s, the lotus pond was filled in so children wouldn't drown in it. Later, my mother recalls that when the family returned to Changqing after months fleeing the Japanese advance, it was she, not the school, that

had changed. "I was a completely different person. Before, I had had a very happy child-hood." Her voice breaks. "But because of fleeing the war and my-illness, I couldn't play on the swings anymore. Before, I could

swing really, really high.

Ekeus says Iraq gave data

(Continued from page 1) Asked if the new atmos-

phere could lead to lifting the U.N. ban on oil exports imposed after Iraq invaded Kuwait in 1990, he said: 'How the political development will be played, it is very istantaneous winter # difficult to say. I do not know how that will play at the Security Council." Mr. Ekeus said he would

inform the U.N. Security ar. Every effort should Council of the latest revelaconsuming and well tions and submit his sixconsuming and most done and submit his six-ach no importance to the monthly report by Oct. 10 or He said he doubted the

George N. See council could take a decision on sanctions by the time of its regular review in September because his experts would not have finished analysing the

Earlier on Sunday, Iraq denied any unusual movement of its troops and said it was ready to fight if attacked tainly read with go by U.S. forces assembling in "Iraq is prepared for any

pect and regard for all fronts with extraordinary ly did not expect power," the official Englishmanner. The UN a language daily Baghdad in nature, and ladd Observer said in an editorial. It said there was no server. riticism to the war it said there was no truth to not to one person." U.S. claims that Iraq was

The United States has sent aircraft carriers to the region within striking distance of Iraq and advanced the date of regarding the issue the regular joint exercises with Kuwait to discourage what it

describes as menacing movement by Iraqi armed forces. Another Iraqi official meanwhile accused Gen. Hassan of fleeing Baghdad with \$35 million. In remarks published in

formation Minister Hamed Yousef Hammadi also hinted that Gen. Hassan should not be allowed to use Jordan as a base for political activity against Iraq.
"Hussein Kamel took with him \$35 million, the local

daily Al Aswaq quoted Mr. Hammadi as telling a group of Jordanian journalists visiting Baghdad at his ministry's invitation. 'We are not against that Jordan grants asylum to any-

one because these are part of genuine Arab traditions and norms," Mr. Hammadi was quoted by the Al Rai daily as "But there is a difference between a defector who adheres to the norms the

world knows in terms of not practising any political activity and a defector doing so," he added. Gen. Hammadi also said he hoped an improvement in, Jordan's ties with Arab Gulf states would not come at the

Kuwait wants Gen. Hassan to help find missing Kuwaitis believed held by Iraq since its 1990-91 occupation but is not raising hopes of an early breakthrough from a man it calls a war criminal.

Iraq could be posing a milit-

expense of ties with Bagh-

required to account for 600 Kuwaitis who have been missing since Baghdad's sevenmonth occupation. His past as head of Irag's

military programmes and a key player in the occupation of Kuwait makes him a good potential source of information, but it also places a question mark over his willingness to provide it, officials said at the weekend. Jordanian officials on Sun-

day denied a report that a sister of President Saddam was in Amman trying to convince two of the president's daughters who defected to

ters, Raghad, and Rana, to return.

name the sister, said: "The two women have not managed so far to meet two daughters." The union, which is con-

trolled by the Iraqi govern-ment, has claimed Raghad and Rana were drugged and abducted by their husbands, Gen. Hassan and his brother Colonel Saddam Kamel Has-

Amman in Aug. 10, the day Jordan granted the defectors

friendships with countries gical, chemical and nucleas Gen. Hassan denied that weapons development. (see he had made contacts with the United States and Saudi

(Continued from page 1)

story below). Gen. Hassan said: "The

regime has released all the secrets of its weapons programme... the aim was to protect their grip on power after Arafat insists

on full deal (Continued from page 1)

police in Gaza City on Fri-

Ísraeli officials sealed off Gaza on Aug. 10. "What you're saying about Wael Nassar does not interest the worker. The worker is only interested in his life, his financial situation," said Mohammad Asour who was

waiting to cross into Israel.

Colonel Radwan Abu Al Qumsan, the PLO's head of security at the Erez crossing, told Reuters only around 6,000 of the 16,000 Palestinians with permits to work in Israel left Gaza. The rest stayed home on the assumption they needed new permits to enter Israel.

Israel began renewing entry permits last week but has issued only a few thousand new magnetic cards needed to cross into the Jewish state. But Israeli officials said on Sunday the old permits were still valid and Palestinians whose magnetic cards had enot been renewed could still enter for work in Israel.

U.S. Bosnia mission to return Mr. Holbrooke told repor-

going on to the United

Frasure, 53, special envoy on former Yugoslavia, Joseph secretary of defence, and Air son Drew, 47.

The wounded were Peter Hargraves, regional security officer at the U.S. embassy in Sarajevo, and army Lieutenant-Colonel Daniel Gerstein of the Defence Department.

ters Mr. Clark and he were ahead of the other car when the armoured personnel carrier plunged down a ravine, bounced off a road at the lower Hairpin curve and kept on going. The scene at the bottom:

"The vehicle had come to a stop after taking out every tree in its path ... the vehicle had live ammunition on board, including some explosives, and when I got there it had burned inside. It had exploded and burned."

The Americans were on the perilous Mount Igman road, the only way into Sarajevo since Bosnian Serbs laying siege to the capital shut down other routes.

Arabia while in Amman, but said "I will begin contacts with Arab and world countries to express our views and to gather support for Iraq and

vowed to topple President Saddam, said his countrymen "must be prepared for a new era," where "democracy and political pluralism will prevail."

stability and interact with other Arab and world countries." he said. "We want

worldwide and we want an end to wars and misery." U.S. diplomats here said the Clinton administration has made contacts with Gen.

Hassan, but there's been no word on what information he supplied to the Americans. Gen. Hassan said Saddam had sent his agents to assassinate him shortly before his Aug. 12 press conference in Amman. He declined to

elaborate. He said he expected the Iraqi regime to be toppled soon by a "coup or a evolu-tion" because it was living in "total isolation" and the "gap between the people and the regime has grown bigger.

Iordan, Israel sign accord because of the size of the

Jordan and Israel will also Eilat, including hotels and other facilities.

However, the major connection between the power grids will be in the central region and is

project and costs involved. Once that project is completed, Israel would be part of a regional network that involves Jordan, Egypt, Syria and Turkey. Officials say that the network would be complete by 1998, by which time Israel is expected to have reached a peace accord with Syria. Iraq is also part of the regional network under an

agreement signed in 1994, but that country could be the last to be connected with the network because of the continuing sanctions that were imposed on by the United Nations in 1990.

No change in Iran deal — Botha

(Continued from page 12)

ited States is concerned about that concern.

Rather than acting unilateral-ly and making claims and accusations in other arenas, the United States should use the appropriate international agencies and platforms," he Mr. Botha said South Afri-

from the International Atomic Energy Agency or some other specialist body. Asked whether he shared a

States was bullying South Africa into backing policy positions, Mr. Botha said: 'No, I don't agree with that. It's just their style, it's their way of doing things."

matter how you read things and we had better find ways to work with that giant," he Mr. Botha said the state-

owned Strategic Fuel Fund (SFF) would soon sign the agreement to store up to 15 million barrels of Iranian oil in tanks built at Saldanha Bay, north of Cape Town, as part of an apartheid-era operation to evade oil sanc-

A president in trouble

The Associated Press

TAIPEI, Taiwan - The tension between Taiwan and China is proving a bumpy political ride for President Lee Teng-Hui with the approach of presidential elections next March.

Just two months ago, basking in the triumph of being the first Taiwanese president to visit the United States, Mr. Lee looked like a shoo-in.

But China, angry at the behaviour of an island it claims as a renegade province, has retaliated for Mr. Lee's visit by suspending talks with Taiwan and conducting menacing missile tests near Taiwanese wa-

Now, some analysts are speculating that relations will not get back on track as long as Mr. Lee is in office, and this has prompted a guessing game about whether he will run in the election. Mr. Lee is expected to

make his plans public at a congress of his Nationalist Party on Tuesday and Wednesday. At 72, after seven years as president, the grand-fatherly Lee enjoys high popularity as the man who

gave his people democracy, and until recently it was widely assumed that he would run and win comfort-That assumption was strengthened as Taiwanese swelled with pride at seeing Lee address Cornell Uni-

But things have since gone seriously wrong. China viewed the lowkey, unofficial trip as an attempt to make capitalist Taiwan independent from the communist mainland.

versity, his alma mater.

Its first move was to freeze its semi-official talks with Taiwan. Next, it embarked on a series of missile tests in waters off the island, disrupting Taiwan's air and sea links

By Annie Huang

Much as they relish Lee's effort to lift them out of the diplomatic limbo imposed by China, few Taiwanese want to go to war about !! Mr. Lee's "greatest diff: culty at the moment scems to be having offended Beijing," Bernard T.K. Joei, a

> professor of political science at Chinese Culture University, wrote in the China Post.
> "The reasoning goes that, if President Lee were to serve another term, the Chinese mainland could hold military exercises everyday in its waters near Taiwan and Taiwan's economy would be affected

and its society destabil-

ised," he wrote.

retired ambassador and

Joei speculated that Mr. Lee might yield his candidacy to Premier Lien Chan as the surest way of keeping the presidency in the hands of the Nationalist Party and fending off the opposition Democratic Progressive Party, whose advocacy of outright independence is sure to stoke Beijing's wrath even further.

Many suspect that this is precisely Beijing's intention
to intimidate Taiwan into replacing Mr. Lee with someone more amenable. Mr. Lee insists he's not

pushing for independence. and that he supports reunification with China. But his conservative opponents have seized the opportunity to accuse him of driving a wedge between Taiwan and the Chinese motherland.

More than 10,000 marched in Taipei streets Sunday, chanting "Lee step down" and calling him "the root of our nation's chaos and crisis."

· Lee already faces two challengers from within his. Nationalist party. The latest is the respected Chen Li-An, head of the watchdog control Yuan, who declared his candidacy on Thursday, citing deteriorating relations with China and saying: "Things have never been so bad before."

ted it.

why the Jordan for IAF assails joint exercises

of banning any factor

females in the village (Continued from page 12)

females in the village (Continued from page 12)

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in Times edits letter the IAF said in the statetage purposes it per ment. The joint military manpolicy to censor new southern parts of the Vinitary man-

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wish to tackle with the IAF, which has 17 yer, should contains. The IAF, which has 17 yer, should contains the Lower House address as well. We members in the Lower House and under second Parliament, rejected we not an american suggestions that the nof unused manual professional professions.

ary threat to the Kingdom. adding that 'we do not need (U.S. President Bill) Clin-

ton's protection.' The motives behind the American suggestion, said the statement, is to sever ties betwen Jordan and Iraq, whose "land and people were destroyed by the American

IAF deputies had warned

the government against fol-

lowing Washington's line in

its policy towards Iraq. The government has asserted that its policies on Iraq are determined by its national interests and that it is under no pressure to take any hostile moves against Baghdad. Iraq has also said that it

wants to maintain good rela-

tions with the Kingdom.

The defection of Gen. Hassan has brought calls from Kuwaiti officials that he be

Amman on Sunday, Iraqi In-

Jordan to return to Baghdad. The London-based Arabic newspaper Al Hayat said the sister was in Amman with Manal A!-Allussi, president of the General Union of Iraqi Women, trying to persuade President Saddam's daugh-

The paper, which did not

The two sisters refused to see the Iraqi ambassador in Jordan, Nuri Al Wais, and their elder brother Uday when the two men went to

(Continued from page 1)

The dead included Robert Kruzel, 50, deputy assistant Force Colonel Samuel Nel-

They had been touring capitals and were on their way to brief Bosnian President Alija Izetbegovic on the they felt they were threatened."

Iraq planned invasion -- defector

Gen. Hassan, who has

"We want a new Iraq. which can live in peace and

(Continued from page 1) lies across southern towns of the Kingdom.

connect their national power grids. Work on a preliminary link in the Aqaba-Eilat area is already under way. This connection will allow Israel to use extra power generated at the Aqaba Thermal Power Plant for use at its considerably large tourism infrastructure at

expected to take some time

human rights and we share "Where we differ is on how you respond to that concern.

concerted United Nations campaign based on evidence

ca probably would support a

perception amongst members of parliament that the United "This country is a giant, no

and badly rattling its finan-

government budget proposals failed to win parliamentary passage Saturday amid angry opposition demands that ministers submit a long-term plan to cut the deficit.

24

MPs voted 21-0 in favour of the budget but 17 abstentions meant the measure failed to win the minimum 31 votes required for passage. Another vote will be taken at the assembly's next session on Tuesday.

The abstentions, in effect blocking passage of the bill, appeared in response to opposition demands the government first propose detailed ideas for ending the deficit in coming years.

'We are sounding the alarm bell, at least to clear our consciences before God and the society," said Ismail Al Shatti, an opposition Islamist chairman of the assembly's financial and economic affairs committee.

"Suspend the budget and embarrass the government before the soceity," he urged MPs before the vote. Economists say persistent

deficits that soared after Kuwait's 1991 Gulf war liberation from Iraqi occupation are slowly eating away Kuwait's main investment reserves, now around \$35 billion and down from around \$100 billion pre-war. The deficit issue goes to

the heart of national security, Kuwait's number one concern, because the country's ability to pay foreign allies to come to its defence would be the critical factor in any future emergency such as Iraq's 1990 invasion. The government wants

spending 4.23 billion dinars (\$13.8 billion) and projects revenue of 2.910 billion dinars (\$9.6 billion), leaving a gáp of 1.32 billion dinars (\$4.4 billion), equivalent to almost a fifth of gross domestic product.

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Finance Minister Nasser Al Rodhan promised to table by the end of 1995 a five-year plan about the statedominated economy includ-

| Japan's trade surplus drops sharply in July

TOKYO (R) — Japan's huge trade surplus shrank sharply in July as the strong yen started to take its toll on exports, surprising economists and boosting the dollar against the ven.

The finance ministry said that Japan's overall customscleared trade surplus narrowed to \$9.43 billion in July from \$12.25 billion in the same month a year earlier. "I was very, very surprised because it (the trade surplus)

forecast," said Makoto Kojima, director of global markets at Barclays Bank. July's overall trade surplus was just below the bottom end of the range of economists' forecasts, which went

from \$9.5 billion to \$12.2

was exactly at the lowest

Economists said the size of the fall in the July trade surplus was an incentive for buying dollars against the

Economists expect the politically sensitive trade imbalance will continue to de-

"Japan's trade surplus is on declining trend, with the effect of the yen's rise starting to depress the volume of exported products," said nomist at Yamaichi Research Institute of Securities and Economics Inc.

Many economists agreed the ven's rise against other currencies, especially the dollar, this year has weakened Japanese products' competitiveness abroad. A strong yen makes Japanese goods less attractive in overseas markets by inflating their dollar-based

But Japan's exports are not expected to fall sharply because other countries may keep huying Japanese pro-ducts as their economies are recovering, economists said.

Asian countries, for example, are expected to purchase capital goods from Japan despite the fact that the strong yen is boosting prices, said Yamaichi's Tsunoda. Economists said Japan's

exports to the United States are also unlikely to shrink dramatically, although the July figure of \$10.34 billion marked the first fall in 32 months. The finance ministry said

Japan's trade surplus with the

United States, its biggest trading partner, marked the second straight fall in July. duties. shrinking to \$3.87 billion from \$5.62 billion a year ear-

Turkish officials expect inflation to start falling

ANKARA (R) - Higher- slow down 12-month inflation than-expected July inflation has dimmed many Turks' hopes for lower inflation this year, but Turkey's economy officials are still confident that year-on-year inflation will decline sharply from

September, "Inflation ran at very high levels in the last four months of 1994. More reasonable rates of inflation in the same period of this year will pull down annual inflation sharply." said a treasury official. who declined to be named.

cent in June. Monthly inflation ran between 5.4 per cent and a high of 8.3 per cent in the last four months of last year.

Inflation, measured with

wholesale prices, rose to 80

per cent in July from 77.3 per

But officials predict monthly average inflation will be at around four to five per cent over 1995's final quarter, citing increased im-ports, lessened reliance of the treasury on central bank resources, slowed down exchange rates, disciplined budget, better farm output and reductions in costom

A monthly average rise of five per cent in the period of September-December will

to 72.2 per cent at end-1995, higher than the end-year target of 40 per cent but sharply lower than 1994's inflation of 150 per cent.

A recent surge in domestic demand, slow privatisation, high private sector manufacturing prices — core inflation - and a real expansion in monetary aggregates may block efforts to reverse inflation, economists say.

Moreover, they fear dis-astrous results if Prime Minister Tansu Ciller's government eases its tight wage and agricultural price policies to increase its popularity ahead of possible early elections.

The next general elections are due in November 1996. The government can still head for early polls anytime this year but elections in 1996 are most likely, political analysts say.

The course of the nineyear-old privatisation programme will be key to the fate of inflation.

The government's endyear target for consolidated budget deficit, 206 trillion lira (\$4.5 billion), was based on a key assumption that at least 50 trillion lira (\$1.1 billion) of 1995 privatisation revenues would be transferred to the

shareholders' rights. The 'tegulations, which came into force Friday, are, intended to protect shareholders' rights.

Russia

issues

new rules

on share

registers

securities markets.

share registers.

rived of them.

MOSCOW (R) - Russia's

Federal Securities Commis-

sion has issued new rules on

share registers aimed at in-

creasing investor confidence

in the country's fledgling

The commission said in a

statement the regulations de-

fined the duties of everyone

involved in a securities trans-

action, including shareholders, nominee holders of

securities and keepers of

issuing, splitting, consolidat-ing and cancelling secur-

They say anyone who acquires registered securities in

good faith cannot be dep-

The rules, which will be

binding pending passage of a

eomprehensive securities

law, seen aimed at ensuring

there is no repetition of re-

cent scandals such as secret

takeovers, stock dilutions

and other crude violations of

Other rules deal with

"This is the main task of our commission. All our work revolves around this activity," commission chairman Dmitry Vasiliev told Reuters in an interview.

Western investor confidence took a knock when it became known that shareholders in Russian oil company Komineft had decided to raise the company's capital and issue new shares without consulting existing stockhol-

JUMBLE.

Unscramble these four Jumbles,

one letter to each square, to for four ordinary words:

REWFE

YOSIN

BLIMEN

BORTED

Yesterday's

Fed likely to hold U.S. interest rates steady

WASHINGTON (R) — The U.S. Federal Reserve (Fed) encouraged by signs that the economy is on the mend, is widely expected to hold off from cutting interest rates further at a policy-making meeting Tuesday.

With inflation steady and growth picking up, analysts said the central bank has no reason to tinker with policy now after reducing rates last month for the first time in nearly three years.

"They should be content," said Robert Dederick, chief economist at Chicago-based Northern Trust Co. "There is no need to rush into another rate move.

Only two of 30 economists and Wall Street analysts surveyed by Reuters expect the central bank's policy-setting Federal Open Market Com-mittee (FOMC) to decide on a rate cut Tuesday.

Since the Fed trimmed short-term interest rates by a quarter percentage point on July 6, the economy has generally been looking bet-

Housing starts racked up their biggest gain in over a year last month, rising 6.7 per cent on the back of lower interests rates and cheaper mortgages.

The jobs market has shown some signs of improvement. Fewer Americans are filing claims for jobless benefits and employment is up so far this summer.

And the dollar has strengthened. That should help hold down prices of imported goods and keep inflation in check.

But not all the news has been upbeat. Car sales remain weak, and that's a cause for some concern because the automobile industry is such a key component of the eco-

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME

A GOOD PLACE TO DO SOME READING.

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

THE Y Y X X

by Henri Arnold and Mike Argirio

"That's the single weak link," said Cynthia Latta, an economist with massachusets-based consultants ORI/McGraw/ Hill.

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"But that by itself won't drag the economy down." Most analysts - inside and outside the Fed — expect the economy to strengthen in the current quarter, after growth abruptly slowed to a mere half percent in the second

"The trough was in April," one Fed official, who declined to be named, said last week. "The economy is looking better since then."

James Glassman, an economist with Chemical Securities in New York, expects the economy to bounce back strongly in the second half of the year, notching up growth of three per cent in the third quarter and four per cent in the fourth.

Most other economists are not so upbeat and some believe the central bank will need to cut rates again before the year is out to give the economy a helping hand. But don't expect that to happen this week.

HOROSCOPE

FORECAST FOR MON-DAY, AUGUST 21, 1995

By Thomas S. Pierson, Astrologer Carroll Righter Foundation

ARIES: (March 21 to April 19) Contact higher ups and gain their support for a project you have in mind today. Delving into fascinating community matters is wise now

TAURUS: (April 20 to May 20) There could be a delay in plans you have formulated today, but this gives you the lead time to perfect details, so be patient and all will work out for the best.

GEMINI: (May 21 to June 21) Don't be uppleased with one who is unable to meet a promised deadline right now. Show others that you can be relied on to finish any project assigned.

MOON CHILDREN: (June 22 to July 21) Do favours for associates and gain their added cooperation today. ence in handling a civic matter and you're going to need the help of higher ups.

LEO: (July 22 to August:21) You may find it hard to get started on your tasks today, but persevere and you can get a lot accomplished. Feel alive and alert to all which happens

VIRGO: (August 22 to September 22) You're now able to enjoy recreations that you've had little time for in the past. You have creative ideas that need expression. You should enjoy a very fine day.

LIBRA: (September 23 to October 22) Attend to those duties that must be done early in the day for best results. Show more interest in outside activities for gaining success.

SCORPIO: (October 23 to November 21) Talks with associates can produce excellent results now. You are able to communicate very well with others today and are able to get your point

SAGITTARIUS: (November 22 to December 21) Study your money situation well today and take steps to improve it. Be sure to keep important promises you have made to other people or they will be knocking at your door.

CAPRICORN: (December 22 to January 20) You're think-ing very clearly now and you easily advance in your line of endeavour. Stop wasting pre-cious time and get all things done which must be done.

AQUARIUS: (January 21 to February 19) Engage in profitable activities early in the day so you'll have time for recreation later. Be more optimistic about the future for yourself and your mate.

PISCES: (February 20 to March 20) Contact a close tie today who has had good ideas to give you in the past. Follow your intuition when dealing with others and get excel-lent results quickly.

Takumi Tsunoda, an eco-Cuban GDP declines by 34% since 1989

HAVANA (R) - Newly revealed statistics on the Cuban economy show that the nation's gross domestic product (GDP) declined by 34.3 per cent since 1989, the year the communist-bloc began to fall

The GDP is the sum of a country's yearly output of goods and services and is considered the most telling measures of a nation's economic activities.

The statistics published in Saturday's Granma, the official newspaper, show that the steepest decline in the GDP has taken place since the breakup of the Soviet Union in 1991. A chart indicated that for the first time in the present decade, there was a slight increase — 0.7 per cent — in the GDP for 1994.

Official statistics on Cuba's GDP were not previously available since the economy used the Soviet system for measuring its economic activities. The article said that the previous system was not as reliable an indicator as the GDP, which is used by most

commended by the United

It said that the Cuban economy has now switched over to the GDP index. Meanwhile, Cuba's gov-

ernment, stepping up efforts to reduce money held by the public, has offered discounts to allow citizens to buy their homes through lump sum purchases instead of instal-

The official newspaper Granma said the accumulated total of house purchase debts owed to the state savings bank. Banco Popular de Ahorro, stood at more than one billion Cuban pesos. The nominal official ex-

change rate for the Cuban peso is approximately one peso to one U.S. dollar, but this is considered artificial even by Cuban government economists who pay more attention to the black market rate, now moving downward toward a level of around 25 pesos to the dollar.

Many citizens were buying their homes from the state through monthly Cuban peso new policy, approved by the council of ministers, allowsthem to liquidate outstanding debts through a single payment.

It offered a 25 per cent discount if a debt was paid off completely and 20 per cent if more than 60 per cent was

Granma made clear this latest measure formed part of the government's campaign to decrease excess liquidity in circulation in an effort to revalue the peso, and therefore peso salaries, to give incentives for work and pro-Last month Cuban Presi-

dent Fidel Castro said an estimated surplus liquidity of 1994 had been reduced by 2.7... ion.

billion over the last year through a combination of new taxes, selective price rises and openings of farm produce markets and shops selling consumer articles.

According to the government, the peso revalued strongly in response, rising from a mid-1994 low of 150 to the dollar. The government's aim is to try to put real buying power back into the Cuban peso.

The objective is to help the majority of Cuban salary earners who have seen the value of their peso wages sharply eroded by Cuba's economic crisis, triggered by the col-lapse of trade and aid ties around 11 billion pesos in with the former-Soviet Un-



product line, so my boss is sending everyone to Lamaze classes."



THE BETTER HALF "Our company is giving birth to a new

Peanuts





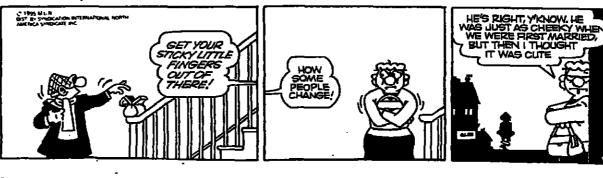


Jumbles: LEECH ADAGE FITFUL BEAVER

REFLECTED

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Andy Capp



Mutt'n' Jeff



THE Daily Crossword by Harvey L. Chew

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Yesterday's puzzle solved:

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Birthstone of August: Peridot - Golden Quartz

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PLACE

SANABEL

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& Appartments

in Amman

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PREV.

PRICE

CLOSING PRICE

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NDAY, AUGUST 21, h

ink," said Cynthia Lange on om is t massachusets-based or tants ORI/McGraw But that by itself won! the economy down:

Most analysts—inst.

Outside the Fed—expe economy to strengthen current quarter after abruptly slowed to a strength of a strengt half percent in the se

The trough was in a one Fed official, who clined to be named *** week. The economy ing better since then James Glassman and incomist with Chemical cities in New York or the economy to boung strongly in the second the year, notching up p of three per cent in the quarter and four per c

Most other economy not so upbeat and some lieve the central bank need to cut rates again. the year is out to give economy a helping be But don't expect the happen this week.

HOROSCOR

FORECAST FOR Y DAY, AUGUST 21, 8 By Thomas S. P.

Astrologer, Carroll -. Foundation ARIES: (March 21 to: 19) Contact higher up

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TAURUS: (April 20 to 20) There could be a de plans you have form. today, but this gives ju lead time to periea & so be patient and all with out for the best.

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today. VIRGO: (August 2 September 22) You're F able to enjoy recreation: vou've had little time is the past. You have draft ideas that need express You should enjoy a venif

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SCORPIO: (October 5 November 211 Talks associates can product 6 ient results now. You. able to communicate well with others today are able to get your !

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CAPRICORN: (December) to January 20 You're ing very clearly now all easily advance in your endeavour. Stop wash cious time and get all done which must be a

AQUARRUS: (Januar) February 19) Engage fitable activities call day so you'll have no recreation later the optimistic about want for yourself and your

PISCES: (February March 20) Contact and today who has had god today who has had god to give you in the particular your intuition and ing with others and get lent results quickly. Birthstone of August

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A review of economic news from the Arabic press

eat

Italian i firm wins JD 35 million road project

☆☆ SOCIETA ITALIANA per Condotte D'acua SPA, a major Italian company, won the tender to build the Ras Al Naqab-Aqaba highway at a cost of JD 35 million. The minister of public works and housing said the work will start within the coming two months and will take three years to complete. The World Bank and the European Investment Bank are financing 70 per cent of the cost while the Jordanian treasury is covering the remaining 30 per cent. The project is 84-kilometre long. stretching 70 kilometres from Ras Al Nagab to Wadi Al Yutum and for a further 14 kilometres from Wadi Al Yutum to Aqaba (Al Ra'i).

☆☆ INTENSIVE CON-TACTS are underway between Amman and Tokyo to obtain a grant to finance building King Hussein and Sheikh Hussein bridges. According to the minister of public works and housing, an agreement on the grant is expected over the coming two months. The minister said the two projects, estimated to cost \$25 million, include building four-lane concrete bridges with pavements as well as building a border post at the Sheikh Hussein Bridge to comprise customs and border services. The project at the border post with Israel is to include also a road that would conwith the Shouneh road. Building King Abdullah and Prince Mohammad bridges and constructing a border post on King Hussein Bridge will be among the projects to be presented to the Amman economic summit in October (Al

☆☆ MAINTENANCE of the Sweileh-Queen Alia International Airport road will begin next month and will continue for eight months at a cost of about JD 3.5 million. The maintenance would be in three stages for a total length of 38 kilometres and covering Sweileh - Eighth Circle - Al Yadoudeh - Queen Alia International Airport. The maintenance was recommended by the World Bank and the British Transport Research Centre as there were many defections in the upper surface of the highway (Al Aswaq).

A NEW study by the Consumer Protection Society shows that the cost of living between 1994 and 1995 has risen by 11.7. The study covered the prices of 117 essential products namely food, medicine and fuel products. Prices were found to have increased by an average 14.3 per cent per year on 78 products, to have declined on nine products and to have remained stable on 30 others. The study pointed out that out of every nine products which declined in price, five were vegetables and fruits, available in large quantities diving the second quarter of the year. Two of the remaining four products were either seasonal or in irregular supply (Al Dustour).

☆☆ A STUDY being conducted on laying down pipelines to carry natural gas from Saudi Arabia, Egypt and Oatar will be completed by end end of this year, the minister of energy and mineral resources has said. The natural gas will be used to generate and provide electrical power to big industries in the first stage and to houses in the second stage. The minister said experts are seeking to use gas instead of fuel at all power stations in the Kingdom in order to maximise economic savings and maintain a clean environment. He added that national companies would be financing this national project (Al

Another nail in the coffin for 'Street of Shame'

Street, once the vibrant heart of Britain's newspaper business, fell silent Sunday.

Pronounced dead a decade ago when the press barons began migrating to London's Docklands and elsewhere in the hunt for cheaper highteach operations, "the street" clung on, a shadow of its former self, with the help of news agencies and regional

But on Sunday, the last major news organisation, the Press Association Agency (P.A.), moved its 100 reporters, photographers and management to new offices in Victoria, five kilometres

The P.A. says new technology, and the need to install up to date technical equipment, make its Fleet Street offices no longer suitable.

Reuters' journalists once shared the building with their P.A. colleagues, but 18 months ago, the world news

Pinancial

Markets

dollar against the mark.

1.50 mark and 100 yen range.

emerged the preceding day.

moved its editorial staff out and bought the building from P.A. as a corporate headquarters.

The P.A.'s departure leaves just a handful of people at the London offices of Scotland's Dundee Courier newspaper carrying the journalistie torch.

Courier executive Ron Paton told Reuters: "We're now the last newspaper office in Fleet Street. We're feeling a bit lonely... you don't get any journalistic gossip in the pub any more."

He added: "I feel sorry for

those journalists stuck in

Docklands. They're all away from the beartbeat." The P.A. move virtually ends a tradition which began as long ago as around 1500 when printer Wynkyn de Worde rented a printing

Close to the commercial heart of London, near parlia-

Jordan Times

in to operation with

Cairo Amman Bank

Foreign Exchange Market Summary

(August 14 - August 18, 1995)

AMMAN - The U.S. unit rose sharply against other

major currencies last week. It ended the week 3.62 per cent

higher against the yen, 2.75 per cent higher against the

The dollar rose marginally against sterling and the mark

Monday, while depreciating marginally against the yen in

thin trading. Reports indicated that the dollar's deprecia-

tion against the yen was due to profit-taking, while the

overall sentiment remained bullish for the dollar. Mean-

while, continued expectations that the Bundesbank might

lower its securities repurchase rate lent support to the

The U.S. unit rose sharply against other major currencies Tuesday, however. Traders were surprised by a

concerred intervention led by the Bundesbank, the Bank of

that the intervention took the market by surprise, especial-

ly the unexpected participation of the Bundesbank. The

news prompted dealers to cover their short positions and

buy dollars causing it to surge to levels not seen in six

The dollar appreciated modestly against other major

currencies Wednesday in thin trading. Reports indicated

that dealers' fear of possible central bank intervention to

support the U.S. currency left many cautious to bet on a

dollar decline. Meanwhile, analysts indicated that the

central banks might be looking for a higher dollar in the

The dollar depreciated against other major currencies

Thursday, however. The U.S. unit was adversely affected

by the release of U.S. foreign trade figures, with worse

than expected results. News that a U.S, fund unloaded part

of its investments in yen options also weighed on the dollar.

However, the U.S. unit managed to rebound, when traders

failed to push it below the 96.50 yen and 1.4650 mark

The dollar rose marginally against the yen and sterling.

while stabilising against the mark at the end of the week.

Reports indicated that the market was looking for signs

from central banks on whether they are still looking for a

higher dollar. Meanwhile, analysts indicated that the dollar

had remarkably held to its gains this week, despite weaker

than expected U.S. trade figures and selling pressures that

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New York Closing Rates for Major Currencles Against the U.S. Dollar

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Japan and the Fed to support the dollar. Reports indicated

mark, and 1.94 per cent higher against sterling.

office on the south side of the

ment and within easy reach of the capital's main stations, Fleet Street was ideally situated for reporting, and every night its presses turned out nearly to million newspapers.

Names and careers were made in an instant in the huddle of offices, and bars, around the street.

The smell of printing ink mingled with the odour of raw ambition and the sense of history being made, invaded the dreams of young reporters across Britain.

Its nicknames - Grub Street, the Street of Shame, the Street of Adventure bore witness to the love-hate relationship of Britain's establishment for its occu-

Each newspaper or agency had its own watering hole, which led not to segregation but to cross-fertilisation.

Returning foreign correspondents swapped tales of derring do and there were frequent late-night brawls involving journalists, some-times piqued by a rival's success in obtaining an exclusive 'scopp.

But the kings of the street were not the journalists but the printers. Operating a closed union policy which meant jobs were reserved for a select few and entry into the ranks usually depended on kinship, they commanded huge salaries.

Boosting their income with casual shifts on Sunday papers, often signing on as Mickey Mouse or Queen Victoria to fool tax authorities, they held newspaper owners to ransom — threatening to stop publication if their demands were not met.

Media tycoon Rupert Murdoch, owner of The Times. the Sunday Times, the Sun and The News of the World, took the printers on in 1986, moving production of his titles to wapping in London's run-down Docklands despite a bitter campaign by unions to stop him.

Pharmacia, Upjohn to merge

STOCKHOLM (R) -Sweden's Pharmacia and Upjohn Inc. of the United States announced Sunday they will merge later this year, the latest move in a global shakeup of the pharmaceuticals in-

dustry.
The Swedish and American pharmaceuticals firms said the merger was on a 50-50 basis and would create one of the world's top 10 drugs companies, with corporate headquarters in London.

The world's drugs industry is riddled with rumours of mergers and acquisitions at the moment, but the Pharmacia-Upjohn line-up had been discussed for several days. A Swedish newspaper forecast the merger on Friday.

"For both Pharmacia nad UpJohn, this merger is a bolo strategic move to build a highly competitive company as the worldwide pharmaceuticals industry continues to consolidate," said Pharmacia's Jan Ekberg. proposed chairman of the new group, to be called Pharmacia Upjohn Inc.

The new group will also have operational centres in Stockholm, Kalamazoo in Michisan — UpJohn's tradi-tional base — and Milan.

"Through the merger, Pharmacia gains access to Upjohn's strong U.S. sales, marketing and distribution infrastructure to fully exploit the sale of Pharmacia products, while UpJohn gains additional sales and marketing support in Europe," Mr. Ekberg added.

The two companies said Pharmacia and Upjohn Inc. will be listed on London New York and Stockholm stock exchanges and the merger would result in a higher 1996 earnings per share for both companies' shareholders. The new group will have annual turnover of aroaund 50 billion Swedish crowns (\$6.8 billion).

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ATTENTION ----

JORDAN MARKET

ELIRO

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Rental Simple

Shmeisani

Tel: 693399

1.5410 (1.94) % SUPER DELUXE FURNISHED FLAT 1.4347 1.<u>475</u>2 (2.75) % FOR RENT 1.2233 (2,35) % Tlaa Al Ali - ground floor, 4.9500 5.0555 (209) % 220 sqm, 3 bedrooms, 3 (3.62) % 97,43 bathrooms, telephone, garden and garage.
Abdoun Real Estate 810605-810609-810520

Change

Japanese Yes · USD Per STC

Sterling Pound*

Deutsche Mark

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Swiss Franc

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Currency	1-Month (%)	i-Year (◀)	1-Month (%)	2-Year (
U.S. Dollar	5.73	5.93	5.81	5.87
Sterling Pound	6.65	6.94	6.58	6.94
Degtsche Mark	4.37	4,43	431	4.37
Swiss Franc	2.75	2.93	2.87	2.93
French Franc	6.00	5.50	5.87	5.81
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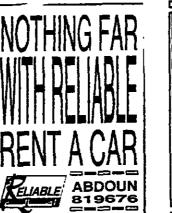
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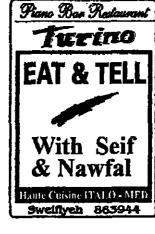
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NEW HAVEN, Connecticut (AP) — Andre Agassi continued his command of the hardcourts, overcoming Mats Wilander 6-3, 6-3 to reach the finals of the Volvo International.

Agassi wasn't sharp in the early going and his win didn't come as quickly and cleanly Saturday night as did his first three victories this week at the Connecticut tennis centre. Agassi lost his service twice, doubling the number of

breaks he has had in the tournament, he also missed eight of 13 chances to break Wilander, who survived with the help of seven well-placed aces, which ranged from as slow as 79 mph to as fast as 119 mph.

Agassi found his rhythm in the second set and began delivering his returns with the power and precision that has made him unbeatable on the hardcourts.

"It was kind of close early. But I managed to poll away, and once I get ahead I get a little more confidence." Agassi said. "I wouldn't say it was my optimum performance... but I would say I pretty much had everything under

Standing in the way of Agassi's seventh title this year is the towering Richard Krajicek, who upset fourth-seeded Yevgeny Kafelnikov 6-4, 6-4 in the earlier semifinal.

The pressure will be on Krajicek. Agassi is 45-2 on hardcourts this year and has won 19th straight matches. He will be making his 10th appearance in a final this year. He has reached the final in every hardcourt event he's played this year and hasn't lost a

match on the surface this summer.
On Saturday night, Wilander, a former No. 1 player, ended up being no match for the new ruler of the tennis world. He did have his moments of brilliance, slicing some nice drop shots and chasing down some of Agassi's.

And, after the two lost their first two service games,

Wilander managed to avoid being broken again in the first set despite being down break points in all of his remaining And just winning six games was a small victory. He had only managed to win two games each of the last two times

they had met on hardcourts, their last battle coming in the Canadian Open semifinals three weeks ago. Earlier Saturday, Krajicek used 16 aces and a deft serve-and-volley game to beat Kafelnikov. Krajicek, seeded eighth, was down a break after two games but

Karbacher beats Sampras

INDIANAPOLIS (AP) -Pete Sampras' overpowering serve deserted him in the second set, opening the door for Bernd Karbacher to oust the top seed from the RCA Championships on Saturday.

The 12th-seeded German advanced to his first career hardcourt finals with a 4-6. 6-4. 6-1 victory over Sampras. the world's secondranked player. Karbacher will meet Sweden's Thomas Enqvist in the final.

Karbacher won the second set by breaking Sampras' serve the first time Sampras had lost his serve in the

Sampras said he was shaken by losing the second set 'and just didn't really regain my composure in the

beginning of the third." It's, the fourth seed, pulled another upset in the other semifinal, ousting No. 2 Goran Ivanisevic 6-1, 1-6, 63. It was the fourth straight week Enqvist has beaten the hard-serving Croatian.

Sampras entered the semifinal match on a dominant streak, winning 90 per cent of his first-service points. But that dominance ended late in the second.

After he broke me in the second," Sampras said. "He really felt like he could have a chance to win it.

"He just really hit some good returns, and I was just stuck flat-footed. I was kind of digging myself in a bigger and bigger hole. That was it. Karbacher said his opponent was unbeatable early.

There was no weakness at all." Karbacher said, adding he was having a tough time even returning Sampras'

second serves. just tried to keep my confidence up, go for every return vou can make, and maybe he will have a lack of concentration.

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Q.1—East-West South you hold: 4876 ?A94 vulnerable, es s proceeded:
South West
Pass 2 4*
Pass 2 4
?

you hold: ◆J872 7954 052 ★AK106 The bidding has proceeded: South West North East Pass 1 7 1 NT Pass

. What action do you take?

Q.3-As South, vulnerable, you 10973 ♥A10 \AJ762 4A8

Q.4—Neither vulnerable, as South you hold: •Q109873 ©6 ©KQ10763 •Void Q.5-As South, vulnerable, you

ekj82 ⊽k982 ≎k ⊕akj9 Partner opens the bidding with one spade. What do you respond?

you hold:

\$\delta A76 \cap J53 \quad \text{AQ102 } \phi 1098\$

The bidding has proceeded:

North East South West

1 \quad 1 \delta 2 \quad \text{Pass}

3 \quad \text{Pass} \quad \text{Pass} What do you bid now?

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Agassi upsets Wilander Tyson beats McNeeley to earn \$25m in 89 seconds

over so fast -89 seconds that it proved nothing except that Mike Tyson was back. The pre-fight show was

flashier and the national anthem was longer. Peter McNeeley was gone when his manager jumped into the ring and gave Tyson the bout to the boos and jeers of the

After three years in prison and more than four years since his last fight, Tyson had little time Saturday night to show whether he still has the skills that once made him the most feared fighter around.

But he once again proved he's the fighter people want to see, even against an opponent as weak as McNeeley. Tyson's \$25 million take for the fight amounted to \$280.898.88 per second.

"I'm not surprised at anything," Tyson said about the bizarre ending. "He came out punching as soon as the bell rang. I just tried to counter

"I'm healthy and I'm here," Tyson said. "I beat people who have built reputations quicker than this. McNeeley did nothing in this fight to add to a reputation built on beating opponents with a combined record of 205-441-21.

Tyson knocked McNeelev down twice and had a sellout crowd at the MGM Grand Garden roaring when suddenly McNeeley's managertrainer, Vinny Vecchione. jumped into the ring and caused his fighter to be disqualified.

The crowd changed from roaring to chanting obscenities and a disgusted Tyson left the ring before the official decision was announced.

McNeeley was furious at first, but seconds later he was smiling in the corner where his mother hugged him and giving high-fives to his friends. Iron Mike indicated later.

however, that maybe the disqualifications was the best

telephone included.

thing for McNeeley.
"Eventually he would have gotten hurt." Tyson said.

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Vegas, Nevada. Tyson earned an estimated \$25m for the fight (AFP photo) Mike Tyson arrives at the MGM Grand for his comeback fight against Peter McNeeley in Las

"I'm a blood man. I like to

McNeeley was jeered mercilessly by non-media people in the post-fight interview room when he said, "I'm a fighter and I was fighting but the people outside looking in can see better than me. They made a decision and I can live with it. They love me and I

There were also catcalls when McNeeley said that after the second knockdown, "I was shaky and I twisted part of my knee. Vecchione said he stopped

the fight because he was afraid McNeeley would get 'As far I'm concerned, I

did the right thing by my fighter," Vecchione said. yson's speed was the defing factor in all this." Marc Ratner, executive

director of the Nevada State Athletic Commission, said vecchione's share of McNeeley's purse, \$179,820, would be held up until the commission talks to him. The kid wanted to fight,

and the referee said the kid wanted to fight," Ratner said. McNeeley's purse was

Tyson look fast and strong, but the fight gave no indica-

tion how the long layoff affected him. The 29-year-old Tyson nailed the swarming McNeeley with a short left hand that dropped him about

15 seconds into the fight. McNeeley got up immediately and as Tyson stood in a neutral corner ran around the ring until referee Mills Lane could stop him

and give a standing 8-count.
The 224-pound (101.6-kilogrames) McNeeley again swarmed to the attack and backed Tyson into the ropes. where they exchanged punches toe-to-toe exchange. missing more than they land-

After Tyson, 220 (99.8 kilogrammes), got off the ropes, he hurt McNeeley with right to the head, then knocked him down with a left and right uppercut to the head. McNeeley bounced up but fell against the rope and that's when Vecchione jumped into the ring, causing

"What?" was Tyson's first reaction to the surprise endidn't think I bit him

hard, but he fell," Tyson said. "I was surprised his corner came in to stop it.' 'Mike looked excellent."

bellowed promoter Don King. "He looked great for a guy coming off a four-year ayoff. You saw the old Tyson power.'

Tyson, released from prison March 25 after serving three years for a rape conviction, came back to boxing in a flash of blue lights and a haze of smoke and the roar of crowd that obviously was there to welcome him home.

His comeback also brought out a group of about 25 men, women and children who walked in a circle outside the •hotel-casino. The purpose of their picketing was to call attention to violence against women (see separate story) .

The victory in 89 seconds was the 12th-shortest fight in Tyson's 42-fight career, in which seven opponents have the disqualification at 1:29. lasted less than a minute.

Protesters draw attention to abuse of women

LAS VEGAS (AP) — As screaming Mike Tyson fans and celebrity watchers packed the MGM Grand Hotel-Casino Saturday, a small group of protesters nearby chanted,

The protesters, the majority of whom were National Organisation for Women members, said they were not "rape is not a sport." protesting Tyson or the resort that was hosting Tyson's return to boxing. Instead, they said they wanted to draw attention to the abuse of women and get Tyson, a convicted rapist, to contribute to their cause.

"We've got the opportunity to make a statement here." said Anne Golonka, president of NOW's southern Nevada chapter. "As long as one woman anywhere in the world is being raped we want to stop it.'

Tyson served three years for raping a beauty pageant contestant and was released in March from the Indiana Youth Centre. Saturday night's fight against Peter . McNeeley was his first since leaving prison.

Golonka had hoped for about 100 protesters, but fewer

than 30 showed up to March in an oval on the sidewalk. They wore signs reading "women are not punching bags" and "remember the victims."

Although Golonka said Tyson should have served a longer sentence, she said the group didn't want to focus on

"He's gone to prison and he's out. It's America," Golonka said. "We can't spend our time stomping our feet over that. ...We have nothing against Mr. Tyson or the

Other protesters were more vocal about Tyson's prison

'We're mad as hell," said Lynn Tynan, a NOW member and host of a radio talk show on KLAV-AM in Las Vegas. Rape is a serious crime, and three years is not enough. We're out here to show a man cannot go on abusing

Golonka sent a letter to Tyson on Monday asking him to help lead a nationwide campaign to end violence against women. She also said she would like to see a "more serious attitude" from him because he is getting on with his life while his victim. Desiree Washington, still is trying to,

"I ask you to dedicate \$1 million of the proceeds from your first fight to establish the Mike Tyson Foundation to end violence against women," the letter states.

Tyson was expected to earn \$25 million for Saturday's Tyson did not respond to the letter, and Don King

Productions refused to comment on the protesters, but Golonka said she would resend the letter after the fight to make sure Tyson received it. Golonka said she hoped the march at minimum would

get people "to consider the issues." You know it's amazing. ...O.J. Simpson and Mike

Tyson are the two most famous men on the planet right

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Women's Basketball Championship

Orthodoxi, Jazireh clash tonight

By Aleen Bannayan Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Former champions Al Jazireh Monday face titleholders Al Orthodoxi in a decisive match that will somewhat determine the eventual winner of this year's women's basketball trophy in the threecum tournament organised by the Jordan Basketball Federation (JBF). Al Orthodoxi will un-

doubtedly benefit by the arrival of key player Jehane Abdelnour who took time off from her work in Besrut to join her teammates. Otherwise, her team might have had a difficult task especially if Shireen Abu Khader misses the upcoming game because of the knee injury she sustained during their match against Al Ahli which the titleholders won by a mere three points 55-52.

Al Jazireh on the other hand easily beat Al Ahli 66-33 while missing five team members including two key players, Suhair Makusi and Rana Hussemi. Al Jazirch currently rely on the rebounding and scoring abilities of 184 centimtre tall Jumana al Salti. While they are without their original lineup of players who are mostly abroad, the team has its energetic playmaker Hala Al

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Dajani and a younger lineup hoping to win back the title they clinched from Al Orthdoxi in 1993.

Al Orthodoxi, on the other hand, appeared in a surprisingly poor form in their match against Al Ahli while having most of their players including usual top scorer Lara Masni-Naber who had missed last season.

However, Al Ahli's newly regrouped team led by Andeira Kasesieh surprised themselves, their opponents and attending fans by managing to keep the score close throughout the match before losing by three

Al Orthodoxi who dominated women's basket-

ball since its latest comeback in 1989, lost the title only in 1993 but regained it last year when Al Jazirch abruptly pulled out of the championship citing differences with the JBF while the only other competing team was Abu Nusair.

Championship record

First: Orthodoxi Second: Abli Third: Homentmen

First: Orthodoxi Second: Ahli

Schedule of upcoming matches (all at Ahli court)

Jazireh-Orthodoxi Abli-Jazireb Ahli-Orthodoxi

Mon. 21/8 бр.та. Wed. 23/8 Friday 25/8 6 p.m.

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Fourth: Jazireh

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Third: Abli

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Third: Jazireh

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Paris St. Germain go top with

away win PARIS (R) — Paris St. Germain seized the lead from Bastia in the French Soccer League on Saturday with an impressive 3-1 win at newly-

promoted Gueugnon.

A header by Panamanian striker Julio Cesar Dely Valdes after three minutes and two second-half efforts by Brazilian Rai and Xavier Gravelaine allowed PSG to outclass Gueugnon, who snatched a goal back through Vincent Fanzel with one mi-

nute remaining.
The Paris club, fighting to recapture the title they lost to Nantes last May, were reduced to 10 men when Rai was sent off in the 73rd minute for a vicious tackle on Gueugnon midfielder Franck

PSG are on 11 points with Guingamp, who beat Bordeaux 1-0 thanks to a firsthalf goal by Lionel Rouxel, and Metz, who were held to a goalless draw at Le Havre. Pans have a better goal dif-

ference. Overnight leaders Bastia suffered their first defeat of the season with a 3-0 loss at St. Etienne, who recorded their first win with goals from Didier Thimotee, Slovakia's skipper Lubomir Moravcik and Liazid Sandjak.

Champions Nantes had to wait until the last minute to beat Nice 1-0 with Chadian Japhet N'Doram scoring from the penalty spot.

"We have quite a few players injured and I believe we can play much better than we did tonight," said Nantes trainer Jean-Claude Suaudeau, whose team are fifth two points behind Paris with a game in hand.

There was disappointment for Monaco, who were beaten 1-0 at home by Martigues with new signing Abdelsalem Sow of Guinea scoring the winner for the visitors in the 77th minute.

The team from the principality are a modest eighth, four points behind PSG after five games.

Bayern Munich rout Karlsruhe 6-2

BERLIN (AP) - Even without injured striker Juergen Klinsmann, Munich's new midfielders found enough targets to lead the team to a 6-2 rout Saturday over Karlsruhe in a Bundesliga match decided in the opening minutes.

Swiss Ciriaco Sferza and Austria's Andreas Herzog teamed up to riddle the detence with combination passing and set up one scoring chance after another.

That was exactly why Bayern Munich snatched them away from other Bundesliga clubs last season. "Munich showed all its cleverness today," said Karl-sruhe coach Winfried Schaef-

er. "Even winning by that big of a score was deterved." Christian Ziege started the rout in the 14th minute, Oliver Kruezer landed a header

four minutes later and Alexander Zickler put Munich up 3-0 in the 23rd. Adrian Knupp then scored the first of his two goals for Karlsruhe, but it was enough: to slow down the blowout at

home in front of 33,800. Sforza's pass ignited a volley shot by Dietmar Hamann in the 57th minute, while

Mehmet Scholl's penalty shot and Zickler's second goal completed the scoring for Munich

Munich had feared the loss of Klinsmann for four weeks due to a leg injury would derail the team's high hopes for the season. The team was also humiliated 7-0 by Deportiva La Coruna in a friendly this week.

But they shook off the set-backs and moved atop the first division standings with a 2-0 record. Their chief rival for the title, Dortmund, struggled to a 1-1 result against Leverkusen second straight draw,

Moenchengladbach moved into third place with an im-pressive 3-1 win over FC Kaiserslautern, a top club last

In other matches, Stuttgart and 1860 Munich drew 1-1; Uerdingen and Frankfurt finished their contest with the same score.

St. Pauli held second place after edging Freiburg 2-0 in Friday action, while Rostock beat Schaike 3-1 and Bremen and Hamburg fought to a 3-3

Dortmund, the defending

champions, struggled again despite the Bundesliga debut of Ruben Sosa of Uruguay. Sosa impressed his teammates but wasn't able to

ignite Dortmund's offence. After Leverkusen veteran Rudi Voeller scored on a solo run in the 57th minute. Andy Moeller forced the draw on a penalty shot seven minutes

Visiting Moenchenglad-bach got a lift from newcomer Michael Sternkopf as it beat Kaiserslautern. Sternkopf had languished on Munich's bench before escaping this year.
After Swedish internation-

al Martin Dahlin put Moenchengladbach up 1-0, Stern-kopf and Peter Wynhoff sealed the game with goals. Miroslave Kadlee scored the consolation goal.

Bulgaria's Krassimir Balakov shot an equaliser for Stuttgart in the 51st minute. helping the visitors recover from compatriot Daniel Borimirov's early goal for 1860

Munich. Heiko Peschke's second half goal halped Uerdingen to a home draw after Slobodan Komljenovic had given Frankfurt the early lead.

Aston Villa crush Manchester United

LONDON (AFP) - Pressure on Alex Ferguson increased as Manchester United slipped to a 3-1 defeat away to Aston Villa on Saturday — their worst league loss for three years.

Ferguson let go Mark Hughes, Paul Ince, and possibly Andrei Kanchelskis during the summer, and many will blame that for their worst result since a 3-0 reverse to

Everton in 1992. Aston Villa were on fire in the first half with goals from former Sheffield Wednesday midfielder lan Taylor, new signing Mark Draper, and a penalty from Trinidadian international Dwight Yorke after Serbian striker Savo Milosevic was brought down

by Peter Schmeichel. To add to United's problems England international Gary Pallister went off with a knee injury in the second half. But substitute David

Beckham salvaged some re-

spect for United scoring from 25 yards with seven minutes

Champions Blackburn Rovers held onto a slender 1-0 lead over Queens Park Rangers, though goalkeeper Tim Flowers was sent off in the 73rd minute for a professional foul on Trevor Sinc-

A penalty from ace striker Alan Shearer in the fifth minute after he had been fouled by QPR defender David Bardsley was the difference. A Matthew Le Tissier hat-

trick for Southampton could not prevent them losing to Nottingham Forest 4-3 at the Le Tisser hit two penalties and a 25 yard freekick, but a

double from Dutchman Brian Roy and other goals from Colin Cooper and winger Ian Woan earned Nottingham Forest the win.

Leeds United came from behind to beat West Ham 2-1

thanks to two brilliant goals from Ghanaian Tony Yeboah. He scored with a header and a left foot volley both sup-plied by Gary kelly.

West Ham's Danny Williamson, 21, had scored the first Premiership goal of the season after five minutes.

Wimbledon had to withstand a spirited comeback from Premiership newcomers Bolton Wanderers. Wimbledon went 2-0 up in 23 minutes through Nigerian international Efan Ekoku and Robbie Earle.

Bolton Wanderers' were level by half time with a penalty by Alan Thompson after Mark Patterson was brought down by Alan Kim-

And Dutchman Fabian De Freitas equalised with an angled shot that appeared to hit debutant goalkeeper Paul Heald but dribbled over the

Seles reaches Canadian Open final

TORONTO (AP) - Monica Seles continued to defy her own expectations to de-molish sixth-seeded Gabriela Sabatini 6-1, 6-0 to reach the final of the Canadian Open.

The destruction was complete and took just 49 minutes Saturday as Seles displayed flawless tennis. Her serves, her returns, her placement of shots were all awesome.

It was the best she's been in this first tournament back after 2 months. She said before it began that it would be unrealistic for her to expect to reach the final. The way she played Satur-day, it would have been foolish to expect otherwise.

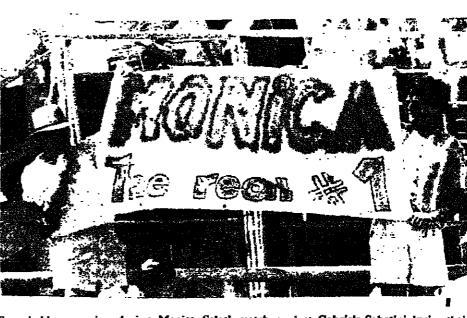
She will meet Amanda Coetzer for the championship on Sunday. Coetzer defeated No. 4 Jana Novotna, 6-4, 6-3, her fourth straight seeded victim, in Saturday night's other semifinal.

"I played some great points," Seles said. "She kept mixing her shots up and I had to work on every point and do a lot of running."
From the start, Seles

took charge. Every shot in her arsenal was working perfectly — slams, drop shots, passing shots. Sabatini could do nothing about it and she was suitably impressed with the way Seles had taken her apart.

"She was playing very well, making a lot of win-ners and not giving me a lot of opportunities. I don't think I played badly. She just played very, well, very close to the level she was at before. "After two years, it's

hard to just start playing tournaments again. She's playing like nothing hap-



Fans hold up a sign during Monica Seles' match against Gabriela Sabatini during their semifinal at the Canadian Open (AFP photo)

pened."

Seles has been brilliant all week, and nothing, not even a gimpy left knee, has interfered. She covered the net effortlessly against Sabatini and on a number of occasions raced from baseline to net to hit win-There was some thought

that Sabatini might challenge Seles. She had won three of 12 previous matches against her, one of just five players to have beaten Seles more than once. Three of the others - Chris Evert, Martina Navratilova and Jennifer Capriari — are no longer palying. and the other, Steffi Graf, was a first-match loser here.

Each player won her first service game at love. It was, however, the only time all day Sabatini was able to

handle Seles. After that, Seles' serves and returns were just twoo much: Typical was a point at 4-1

when Sabatini seemed to have beaten her on a long shot. Seles chased down the ball for a huge return, then dashed from the baseline to the net for a crosscourt winner. The crowd roared and Seles raised her arm and beamed. Even she seemed impressed. A moment later, she

broke Sabatini for a 5-1 lead. In the first set, which took just 23 minutes. Seles lost just four points on her serve. She benefitted from a couple of close calls. Once, Sabatini quit on a shot she thought was out, and later she played on after another ball she thought had missed the line

was ruled good. As well as Seles was playing, she hardly needed the

help.
"I felt bad about the want the match to go that way. Gaby was very supportive of me. She was the only player in Rome to stand up for me after the stabbing, so there was a lot of emotion at the end of the

Seles said she continues to play with a new attitude and a new perspective about tennis.

"Win or lose, it's just great to be out there again," she said. "After all the dark days and dark spots, to play great tennis and have fun doing it, that's

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Villagers pass by the wreckage of cars overturned in the flood that hit villages in the Marakkesh region of Morocco on Friday (AFP photo)

Mufti: 'Fatwa' against selling land to Israelis is not binding

By Sae'da Kilani Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Jordan's mufti, Sae'eed Hijawi, Sunday described a fatwa by prominent clergymen early this week that prohibits land sale to Israelis as an "individual interpretation" that could not become binding unless approved by the Ifta' Council, the highest religious authority in the King-

The fatwa, issued by religious scholars, university rofessors and Islamist parliamentarians who described themselves as "heirs to God's messenprohibits the sale or lease of land to Israelis and described those "who cede their lands (to the enemy) and recognise the state of the Jews" as "disloyal" and "should not be trusted."

"Fatwas could not be recognised officially and accepted religiously unless the Ifta Council looks into them." Mufti Hijawi told the Jordan Times.

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According to Mufti Hijawi. an old fatwa issued by the former mufti of Jordan. Sheikh Abdullah Kalkili. that bans all kinds of trade with Israel has so far not

been revoked. "But in light of new de-

velopments, the (council) could look into the issue." he said referring to the peace treaty with Israel and Parliament's abrogation of laws that ban dealing with

He added that the Ifta Council, which consists of jurists and is headed by Chief Justice Izzeddine Tamimi, would be ready to study the new fatwa if the authorities requested it do

One reason behind issuing the new "fatwa" at this time, according to one of its signatories, Islamist Deputy Hammam Saleed. was Parliament's ratification of the laws that ended the boycott of Israel.

Dr. Sa'eed told the Jordan Times that the signatories thought the law did not offer enough guarantees against the sale of land to Israelis, especially to Israelis who hold double nationality.

The three-page fatwa warned of serious implications on the region as a whole if Arabs sold land to Israelis. The fatwa further warned of the spread of unethical practices like adultery "that will corrupt the new generations."

"Let it be a reminder to our beloved people in Jordan that the first step to the occupation of Palestine was

Morocco floods toll goes up

RABAT (R) - Morocco said on Sunday 141 people had died in flash floods that swept the southwestern region of Marrakesh and newspapers said whole families, many on holiday, were wiped out in the worst flood-

ing in the region for 50 years. An Interior Ministry statement said rescuers had plucked the bodies from five of the worst-hit regions of Al Haouz province south of the city of Marrakesh, 330 kilometres from Rabat

Many victims were holidaymakers trapped in cars swept by rivers of mud that poured down the forested Atlas mountains, sending rocks hurtling onto camping sites and villages in the valleys below following a freak thunderstorm.

Television showed bodies of men, women and children caked in mud being carried off in ambulances.

The government newspaper Le Matin said 30,000 holidaymakers, many of them campers and backpackers, were in the area when the downpour began on Thursday night.
The campers were the most

through the purchase of

Arab land by Jewish mer-

chants who were not origi-

nally inhabitants of Pales-

tine," the fatwa said. "The

greed of the Jews did not

end with the occupation of

Palestine: they aspire to

The Lower House of Par-

liament last month en-

dorsed a law ending

boycott of Israel but con-

ditioned land sale to fore-

igners with reciprocal treat-

ment from the buyer's

endorsed by the Senate and

awaits ratification by His

Majesty King Hussein.

allows land sale to fore-

igners under strict condi-

tions and in limited areas in

the Kingdom. Any sale or

lease of land to foreigners

necessitates the approval of

the cabinet, according to

"It is not enough," Dr. Sa'eed said. The Jordanian-Israeli "treaty.

which bans discriminatory

practices in all Jordanian

laws, supercedes all laws

and makes land sale to

The Islamic Action Front

Israelis very easy."

the law.

The law, which was also

country of origin.

seize all the Arab region.'

vulnerable, having chosen shaded terrain near rivers and streams which burst their banks.

The mainly rural area is a popular holiday resort for Moroccans escaping the intense heat of the cities, where temperatures have reached record highs in recent weeks. There have been no re-

ports that foreign tourists were among the casualties. Some newspapers said hundreds more people were missing in remote mountain areas, but the Interior Ministry spokesman implied that rescuers did not expect to find more bodies after scouring the region for three days

with help from the military. Some residents contacted by telephone from Rabat said they had seen arms floating in the sludge that rolled down from the mountains.

The mudslides sent cars smashing into each other and television showed cars stacked up like toys.

The ministry statement said more than 100 homes and shops were destroyed.

King Hassan ordered emergency supplies sent. In-terior Minister Driss Basri



Survivors of the flood-ravaged village of Oualams in the Marakkesh region of Morocco leave the area to find refuge (AFP photo)

IAF hits joint exercises as part of 'American scheme'

By Ayman Al Safadi Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Jordan's largest opposition party on Sunday condemned the joint Jordanian-American military exercises which began in the Kingdom's southern desert on Friday, urging the govern-ment "to keep the American forces away from our land and our people who were shocked when they saw the strategic ally of Israel" in Jordanian territories.

In a statement interspersed with the customary anti-American and anti-Israeli rhetoric, the Islamic Action Front (IAF) warned of a "grand American scheme" to control the region, its re-

sources and its people. The IAF said it opposed the military manoeuvres, which it described as a provocation to the Jordanian people, and urged the government not to repeat them.

The IAF said the exercises. in which about 3,000 American and 4,000 Jordanian troops are participating, are part of an American design aimed at "rearranging the region" at this critical juncture. "It seems that the era of rearranging (the region) according to American designs have not been completed yet. Hence is the olstering of the American presence, especially the military one" in the area, the statement said.

The statement made a connection between the exercises and the announcement by a senior Iraqi official who defected to Jordan Aug. 8 that he will be working to topple the Iraqi regime.
"The arrival of the Amer-

ican forces could be the first priority action against Iraq, said the statement, adding that it might also aim at strengthening Israel in light of the difficulties it is facing in its negotiations with Syria.

The statement said that the increased presence of American troops in the region is intended to "bully" Arab countries with view to accelerating the peace process with Israel.

The United States beefed up its military presence in the region following the defec-tion of former Iraqi Minister

of Industry Hussein Kamel Hassan Al Majid to Jordan. In addition to moving the aircraft carrier Theodore Roosevelt to the Eastern Mediterranean, the U.S. said it was ready to deploy 20,000 troops in the area to guard against perceived Iraqi hreats to Jordan and Kuwait after it detected "unusual" movement by the Iraqi army. Iraq rejected as mere "hallucination" the American accusations. The United Nations confirmed that the Iraqi forces had made no unusual

movement. The joint military exercises, dubbed "Infinite Moonlight," were planned weeks before the defection of General Hassan to the Kingdom and the government stressed that they have no connection with the latest developments in Iraq.

But the IAF appeared to have brushed aside the government assurances, insisting that the manoeuvres are part of an American scheme to "terrorise the region and exploit its oil wealth."

(Continued on page 7)

deputy said the issuance of this fatwa was very important to remind people of visited on Friday to oversee for its Islamic rule the serious implications of the rescue and ordered a selling land to foreigners, commission set up to help the KHARTOUM (R) - Dr. Tourabi, citing as especially to Israelis. rural area. Sudan's influential Islamist achievements of Gen.

leader Hassan Al Tourabi said on Sunday his country was being unjustly criticised abroad because it applied Islamic laws and revived the concept of Jihad, or holy struggle.

He was quoted by the official Sudan News Agency (SUNA) as saying the change which Sudan has been witnessing since the implementation of Islamic laws would take it to the position of leadership in the world.

Dr. Turabi said Sudan, after living through the first half of this century under Western domination, had revived the concept of Jihad. which he said had been for-

gotten in the Islamic World. Western nations led by the United States, together with Egypt and several other Arab states have repeatedly acused Sudan, led since 1989 by the Islamist-backed government of Lieutenant-General Omar Hassan Al Bashir, of giving refuge and training for Muslim militant groups. Sudan

Bashir's government, said it had ended what he called a state of disintegration under the rule of sectarianism and political parties.

Sectarianism in Sudan's political diction refers to the country's two main, nowoutlawed political groups --Umma and the Democratic Unionist parties whose power base is in the Al Ansar and Al Khatmiya religious sects respectively.

At that time the people neglected their rituals while they were locked up in the struggle for power," Dr. Tourabi said. He was referred to Sudan's last pluralism experience which ended when Gen. Bashir seized power from an elected gov-

ernment in June 1989. Gen. Bashir on taking power dissolved parliament and suspended the constitution. He also banned political parties, including Dr. Toura-bi's National Islamic Front, thus ending Sudan's third spell of democratic rule since independence in 1956.

Tourabi: Sudan attacked Algerian politician accuses GIA of Paris blasts

PARIS (Agencies) — The leader of a pro-democracy Algerian party said Sunday he believed that Thursday's bomb attack near the Arc de Triomphe was the work of the ultra-radical Armed Isla-

mic Group (GIA). Said Saadi, leader of the Rally for Culture and Democracy (RCD), said: "There are reasons to suggest that the Armed Islamic Group carried out the last three attacks on French territory."

Thursday's bomb planted in a rubbish bin injured 17 people, mostly tourists, three of them seriously. The other attacks took place on July 25. when a powerful bomb exploded in a busy commuter train in the heart of Paris' Left Bank, killing seven and leaving more than 80 injured, and July 11, when an 85 year-old Algerian imam was gunned down in a Paris mosque.

In an interview with the Journal du Dimanche, Mr. Saadi said "recently, in Algeria, armed groups have used the same process of the gas cylinder in their attacks" as the two Paris subway attacks.

Reliable sources say both bombs used chlorate-based explosive packed into a camping-gas canister purchased in Belgium, and a battery-powered time delay fuse.

Mr. Saadi said a village in Kabylie, east of Algiers, was attacked several days ago and that 'the only aim of the attackers was to take gas cylinders."

He told the newspaper that the GIA was carrying out attacks "to give the impression that it still exists politically, as it is in difficulty here (in

Algeria)."
The shadowy GIA is considered the most radical of the Muslim extremist groups fighting to topple the military-backed government in Algiers.



Malaysian post card described as vulgar

KUALA LUMPUR (AP) ---Indian women are reportedly angered by a Malaysian national day post card they consider . vulgar because it shows a large span of an indian woman's midriff. "This is definitely not the type of Indian culture that exists in Malaysia. It practically shows the woman semi-nude, said Vimala Nair, who heads the Malaysia Sangam Hindau women's wing. Hindau Sangam represents thousands of Hindus in Malaysia on religious. ethical and other matters, and is an official advisory group to the government. MS. Nair was quoted in a report by the Sunday Star newspaper. Hindu women here normally wear a sari, a six-yard cloth that covers the body almost entirely. But the woman in the postcard painting is without a sari and is shown wearing only underclothes, Ms. Nair was quoted as saying. She added that to depict Indian women in such a fashion on a national day card sends the wrong message, she said. Senior postal official Zubir Othman said the government did not design the cards, but contracted the work out. "We apologize if the card has offended anvone and there was no intention to belittle any race or depict them in the negative light," he said, adding they were investigating the matter. There are about 1.8 million Indians in Malaysia and most of them are Hindus. National independence day is Aug.

China cleans up massage parlours

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BEIJING (AFP) Beijing police havelaunched a clean up operation to shut down massage parlours and bars frequented by prostitutes ahead of the upcoming Fourth World Conference on Women. Some 50 women were arrested in a police sweep Friday on a single strip of hairdressing-massage outlets next to the five-star Kunlun Hotek witnesses said Sunday. "All the girls have been taken away, and the ones from outside Beijing have been forced to return to their hometowns," said the owner of a nearby store.

Christians, Muslims burn condoms

NAIROBI (AFP) -Christian and Muslim clergymen in Kenya set fire to sex education books, condoms and other contraceptives to demonstrate their opposition government plans to introduce sex lessons in schools, local newspapers reported Sunday,

NEWS IN BRIEF

Arab League urges members to pay arrears

CAIRO (AP) - The Arab League called on its member states Sunday to pay \$80 million in arrears so that it can carry out its duties and pay its 500 employees. For years, the 22-member league has faced a tight budget. Earlier this year, the employees at its headquarters in Cairo were paid their monthly salaries several weeks late. Iraq, Somalia, Mauritania, Djibouti and the Comoro Islands have not paid any fees because of a financial squeeze at home, officials said. Their share comes to 14 per cent of the league's budget. Countries which have not paid in full are Bahrain, Algeria, Jordan, Qatar, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libva. Morocco and Yemen.

Gunmen wound Palestinian professor

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (R) — Unknown gunmen in the West Bank on Sunday wounded a Palestinian professor who has criticised PLO leader Yasser Arafat's peace moves with Israel, witnesses said. They said Abdul Sattar Al Qassem was shot four times in the West Bank city of Nablus. Hospital officials described his wounds as moderate. Palestinians said Dr. Qassem had criticised Mr. Arafat in opposition newspapers for his leadership style and his 1993 peace deal with Israel which launched Palestinian self-rule in Gaza and Jericho. Dr. Qassem's son said the gunmen fled in a car with licence plates issued by the Palestinian self-rule authority.

Passengers force pilot to evict AIDS woman

CAIRO (AP) - Frightened passengers forced the pilot of an Egypt Air flight Sunday to leave behind an Ethiopian woman who was being thrown out of the country because she had the AIDS virus. Mariam Mashari, 25, was ordered deported after she tested positive for the virus. Once she boarded the flight to Ethiopia, some of the passengers found out, got frightened and forced the pilot to have her taken off the plane, airport officials said. Ms. Mashari was taken from the airport to a Cairo hospital. The flight later left for Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, Egypt has around 560 AIDS cases and has deported 225 foreigners who tested positive for the AIDS virus. Despite health campaigns to teach Egyptians how the disease is transmitted, many shun any contact with AIDS patients, who are usually detained in hospitals. The airport officials said that Ms. Mashari was employed as a maid by an Egyptian actress, who demanded the woman undergo the tests.

Turkish police defuse bomb left at newspaper

ISTANBUL (R) - Police on Sunday defused a bomb found outside an Istanbul bureau of the conservative daily newspaper Turkiye, the Anatolian news agency said. It said the bomb was discovered after an anonymous phone call to police reporting a suspicious package at the newspaper's Bagcilar office, which is closed on Sundays. Gunshots have been fired twice over the past nine months at the offices of two newspapers in Istanbul. In both cases there were no injuries and it remains unclear who was responsible. Last December three offices of the pro-Kurdish daily Ozgur Ulke — since closed by court order for separatism — were bombed and one person was killed.

Sudan wants ban on recruitment of refugees

KHARTOUM (AFP) - The Sudanese government has asked the U.N. to intervene and prevent the rebel Sudan People's Liberation Army from recruiting Sudanese refdugees into its ranks, newspaper reports said Sunday. The secretary general of the government-formed High Council for Peace, Lino Rol Deng, said his council told the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees that the army was recruiting young men among the refugees in neighbouring Kenya, Uganda and Eritrea, newspapers here reported. "Those SPLA (army) practices are regarded a violation of human rights and United Nations conventions providing for protection of refugees and banning their recruitment for military activities." Deng was quoted as saying. Deng, from southern Sudan, has also said his council has appealed to international non-governmental organisations to visit refugee camps in those nations to find facts on the matter. He said there were efforts by the Sudanese and Ugandan governments for repatriation of Sudanese refugees there. He did not specify the number of Sudanese refugees in neighbouring countries. Previous reports on Sudanese refugees in Uganda put the number at 150,000 and in Kenya 30,000.

Iranian deputy minister visits Kabul

KABUL (R) - Iran's Deputy Foreign Minister Alauddin Borujerdi arrived in Kabul on Sunday to discuss bilateral ties and regional security, a senior Iranian diplomat said. Ghulam Hadadi said Mr. Borujerdi would also talk about possible strategies for ending Afghanistan's civil war. "Our policy is to have continuous relations and contact with both the government and rival groups to find a comprehensive solution to the war here," the ambassador said. Afghanistan's acting minister of state for foreign affairs, Najibullah Lafrai, was at Kabul airport to welcome Mr. Borujerdi and his top military commander Ahmad Shah Masoud before leaving on Monday.

Opposition group demands role in Iran polls

TEHRAN (AFP) — The Liberation Movement of Iran (LMI), an illegal pro-democracy opposition group in Iran, called on the authorities on Sunday to allow it to take part in legislative elections next year. Several LMI leaders urged President Ali Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani in a press conference to help remove "obstacles" in the way of the group's participation in the March elections. "We will participate in the coming elections provided the authorities publicly guarantee the safety of our activities and that of our followers before and after the (election) campaign," said Ibrahim Yazdi, the secretary general of the group, which is tolerated here. He demanded that people be allowed to "choose their candidates freely" to check growing apathy among the population in the country's political life. "Although participation in the elections would be difficult for us in the present state of affairs, the LMI has a right and national duty to take part," Mr. Yazdi said. He criticiserd extra powers granted by parliament to the Council of Guardians, a legislative body dominated by conservative clergymen, to screen candidates ahead of the elections, saying they were "unconstitutional."

denies the charge. Iran oil deal will not be changed -- Botha

CAPE TOWN (R) - South Africa will not bow to U.S. pressure over its new oilmarketing joint venture with Iran, Mineral and Energy Affairs Minister Pik Botha said on Sunday.

The United States should tackle Iran's alleged nuclear ambitions in the appropriate international agencies and not in talks with South Africa, he told Reuters.

"I will not reconsider the deal because I do not understand why the United States should be so concerned with our little bit of business with Iran," he said in an interview.

The U.S. State Department has expressed disappointment at the deal, approved in principle last week during a visit by Iranian Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati.

U.S. Energy Secretary Hazel O'Leary said when she began a week-long visit to South Africa on Saturday that she would raise the issue "in the appropriate arena.".

Asked whether the deal could undermine South African trade relations with the United States, however, she said: "Of course it's not a handicap. Never would I dare to presume to dictate to South Africa how they should make their decisions."

Accusing Tehran of sponsoring international terrorism and of trying to develop nuclear weapons, the United States has called for international support for a trade embargo against Iran.

Mr. Botha said he had not been formally approached by the United States to cancel the Iran deal, but said he was aware of pressure being exerted indirectly. "The U.S. is concerned

about the proliferation of nuclear weapons and we share that concern. The United States is concerned about the development of chemical weapons and weapons of mass destruction and we share that concern. The Un-

(Continued on page 7) ~